

S. Yemen leader ends Oman visit

BAHRAIN (R) — South Yemen President Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas ended Tuesday a visit to Oman during which he signed a pact aimed at ending 20 years of hostility and border clashes. "The comprehensive agreement signed during the visit will open wide horizons for cooperation between the two brotherly states in all fields including trade, transport and oil and mineral exploration," Attas told the Oman News Agency. The two states have clashed along their border several times and diplomats last reported an incident last year, but the wide-ranging agreement signed Monday by Attas and Oman's Sultan Qaboos bin Said was intended to improve relations. It was the first major accord between South Yemen and Oman since they established ties in 1983 with the help of Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. The Oman News Agency said four Omani jet fighters escorted Attas's aircraft back at the end of his four-day visit, the first by a South Yemeni president since Aden's independence from Britain in 1967. Tensions between Muscat and Aden were originally triggered in the 1970s by South Yemen's support for insurgents in Oman's southern Dhofar province.

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Heavy water routed to India illegally

OSLO (R) — Norway said Tuesday that 15 tonnes of its heavy water, which can be used to make atomic bombs, had been illegally rerouted to India on a flight which also carried several tonnes delivered from the Soviet Union. It was the first confirmation of previous allegations in the Norwegian and foreign media, denied by India and the West German firm that purchased the water in 1983. "I can confirm that 15 tonnes of heavy water... ended up in Bombay," assistant state prosecutor for Aksel Busch told Reuters. "But we do not know what the water was used for." International regulations forbid the shipment of more than one tonne of heavy water to India, which has refused to sign a nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty aimed at halting the spread of atomic weapons. India, which denies having atomic bombs, carried out its first nuclear explosion in 1974, saying it was for peaceful purposes. Norwegian authorities have been probing several international sales of heavy water, which can be used to produce plutonium and is also known as deuterium oxide. "We have established the route after talking to people involved in the transport business in West Germany and Switzerland," Busch said.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

U.S., Egypt sign tank agreement

CAIRO (AP) — U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci conferred with Egyptian leader Tuesday and signed a memorandum of understanding on co-production with Egypt of the U.S.-designed, top-of-the-line M-1A1 tank. Carlucci met with President Hosni Mubarak for an hour and later told reporters the talks were "very friendly." He said the talks, attended by Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, centred on Middle East developments and bilateral military relations, which he said were "progressing very well."

Ibn Ali names new minister

TUNIS (R) — Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali named a new interior minister Tuesday to replace Habib Ammar, a close associate said by the government to be suffering from lung cancer. Ammar retains the same rank of minister of state (senior minister) which he has along with the newly created post of special adviser to the president. The new interior minister is Chedli Neffati, previously secretary of state (deputy minister) at the ministry in charge of national security.

Rocket attack on Kabul kills one

MOSCOW (AP) — Twelve rebel rockets fired onto the Afghan capital of Kabul Monday and Tuesday killed one person and injured 17, the Soviet news agency TASS reported. TASS said only women and children were hit in the attack on residential neighbourhoods. No other details of the attack were given.

Angola sees Namibian freedom

LISBON (AP) — Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said he expects the Namibia independence process to begin before the end of January, the Angolan news agency Angop reported Tuesday. The original, Nov. 1 target date for the beginning of an independence plan was unrealistic, Angop quoted Dos Santos as saying (see related story on page 8).

U.S. awaits Iranian response to offer

KUWAIT (R) — A U.S. official said Tuesday Washington was still waiting for Iran to respond to an offer for direct talks on normalizing ties, cut since the early days of its 1979 revolution. Peter Burleigh, deputy assistant secretary of state for Near East and South-East Asian Affairs, ruled out an improvement in ties before Tehran renounced its alleged support for terrorism and helped to free Americans held hostage in Lebanon. But Burleigh reiterated an offer by President Reagan for direct talks with Tehran and said: "We are waiting for a response from the Iranian side."

Bomb blasts kill 17 in N. India

SRINAGAR (R) — At least 17 people were killed and 67 injured Tuesday when three bombs exploded in India's two troubled border states of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, police said. In one incident near the north-west Indian city of Jammu, 11 people were killed and 34 injured when a bomb exploded on a crowded bus which had set out from Pathankot in Punjab. Earlier two bombs exploded simultaneously in busy market areas of Pathankot, killing six people and injuring 16.

Irishmen plead not guilty to kidnap

ABU DHABI (AP) — Two Irishmen arrested while trying to whisk a five-year-old girl out of the country pleaded innocent to kidnapping charges, court officials said Tuesday. Gerald Flynn, 25, and Dennis Denehey, 28, appeared Monday in the criminal court of Khobar Fakhkan, where they were arrested two months ago while allegedly trying to kidnap Nadine Nasseer. The case was adjourned until Nov. 7.

Waldheim holds talks with Kuwait leader

KUWAIT (AP) — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim held a first round of official talks with Kuwait's ruler Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah Tuesday and visited the country's oil industry headquarters at Ahmadi. The discussions, attended by senior aides to both leaders, centred on bilateral relations, the latest Middle East developments and issues of mutual interest, an official statement said.

Hijacker admits killing American, Israeli

VALLETTA, Malta (AP) — An Arab who was the only commando to survive the 1985 hijacking of an Egyptian airliner pleaded guilty to killing two women passengers, an American and an Israeli, at the Tuesday trial opening. Sixty people died in the hijacking and Egyptian army rescue assault on the Boeing 737 — the highest hijacking death toll ever. The soldiers tried to overpower the hijackers with gunfire and high-powered explosives. The Lebanese-born defendant, Omar Muhammad Ali Rezag, 25, was one of three men who commandeered the Egyptian plane Nov. 23, 1985, en route from Athens to Cairo.

Carbide challenges interim compensation

NEW DELHI (R) — The Union Carbide Corporation began its supreme court appeal Tuesday against interim compensation for victims of the world's worst industrial accident. Lawyer Fali Nariman, challenging the \$270 million compensation order, said it failed to take account of the possible liability of central and local government over the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster. He said a lower court hearing a \$3.3 billion compensation claim brought by the Indian government had made the order without even documenting the injuries of the victims.

Lebanese jailed for heroin smuggling

LARNACA (AP) — A Lebanese heroin smuggler betrayed by his funny walk was sentenced to four years imprisonment by a local court Tuesday. Airport narcotic agents who became suspicious detained Georges Hanna, 23, a plumber, as he was about to board a flight for Madrid. Oct. 14. An X-ray check revealed he was carrying 240 grammes of heroin in three small bags hidden inside his body, and two more in his shoe soles.

Kidnappers cut off part of hostage's ear

CAGLIARI, Sardinia (AP) — Kidnappers who held a prominent Rame businessman for 141 days cut off part of his right ear to press their ransom demands, officials said Tuesday. Giulio de Angelis, 56, was freed Monday night after the family reportedly paid a ransom of 3 billion lire (\$22 million), down from the original demand of 20 billion lire (\$15 million).

Students vow to raid Chun's house

SEOUL (AP) — Police remained on increased alert Tuesday as radical students vowed to go ahead with plans to raid the house of former President Chun Doo-hwan to press for his arrest on corruption charges. Police gave no figures, but local news reports said about 10,000 students from 41 colleges took part in anti-Chun rallies or street protests Tuesday in Seoul and elsewhere. In Seoul, where Chun's house is located, about 5,000 students braved scattered rain and held campus rallies.



Royal Guards train in tae-kwon-do

HIS Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Tuesday attended the graduation of a batch of army officers trained in tae-kwon-do. The batch, affiliated with the Special Royal Guards Battalion, performed their skills before the King, who later presented diplomas and awards to them (photo above). The ceremony was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister

Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and senior military officers. King Hussein also called at the Army Headquarters in Amman Tuesday and met with Sharif Zaid and senior officers. The King passed directives on matters related to the Armed Forces.

Meetings pass, amend regional development recommendations

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday chaired two working sessions of top-level officials on recommendations and actions related to tourism and development of cities and villages and the environment as social development.

The meetings approved a number of the recommendations, which were adopted by a Sept. 27-28 meeting on development in the Zarqa-Amman-Balqa region, and amended several others to be compatible with comprehensive development in all fields in all areas of Jordan, keeping in view the need of actions to be oriented towards the next phase in development and to deepen the concept of central planning and decentralisation of execution, with particular emphasis on the role of elected municipal and rural councils.

Iraq, Iran launch new round of direct meeting

GENEVA (Agencies) — The Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers met face-to-face Tuesday in the first joint session of their stalled peace talks since early last month.

The session, chaired by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar came one day after the negotiations went into their third round following a four-week recess. It was only the sixth direct meeting with Iran's Ali Akbar Velayati and Iraq's Tariq Aziz since the talks began Aug. 25.

The mood seemed sober as the delegations, 18 Iranians and 14 Iraqis, sat down at the rectangular tables flanking the U.N. team. The negotiations aim at a lasting settlement, with priority given to consolidating the ceasefire which took effect Aug. 20 after

eight years of fighting. Previous rounds were held in Geneva and in New York.

The only things they have been able to agree are the ceasefire and to hold talks on a permanent peace. But those negotiations are still stuck on the first part of the first point of the agenda, and little progress was made in separate talks with Perez de Cuellar Monday.

"Yesterday we agreed only on the programme of our activities during the week. It was not substantive discussion," Perez de Cuellar said of the talks which lasted nearly four hours. He said it was too early to say if there were new signs of flexibility.

In Riyadh, Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said Tuesday he was confi-

King stops smoking

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has given up smoking for good, according to a report in Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily Tuesday.

The paper quoted the King as saying during his visit to Sawt Al Shaab that as of Nov. 1, 1988, he will give up smoking.

In a later development, Health Minister Zaid Hamzah sent a cable to King Hussein congratulating him on this step. "The Jordanian family received the news of your giving up smoking with great delight and the decision will have a considerable contribution to the ministry of health's efforts in the field of primary health care services," the cable said.

Israeli planes bomb camps in Lebanon; at least 4 killed

SIDON (Agencies) — Israeli warplanes bombed Palestinian camps in Lebanon Tuesday, killing at least four people.

The jets bombed and rocketed buildings in Mich Mich refugee camp and the Qrayeh and Jinnaya areas east of the southern port of Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

Four U.S.-made F-14 planes hit an ammunition dump and three bases of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) mainstream Fatah group, security sources reported.

A base of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and four houses were also flattened.

Three other Israeli jets then attacked a DFLP camp and one used by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General-Command (PFLP-GC) in the Aramoun hills south of Beirut.

Four people were killed and 10 wounded near Sidon, hospital and Palestinian sources said. No casualty toll was available for Aramoun.

The air strikes followed a petrol bomb attack on a bus in the

Israeli-occupied West Bank which killed four people Monday. Tuesday's raid was Israel's fifth air strike in Lebanon in two weeks and the 22nd this year.

Thirty-six people were killed and 76 wounded in four air raids in South Lebanon between Oct. 21 and Oct. 26.

That blitz came after a suicide

bomb that the Iran-Iraq negotiations would bring the Gulf region much-needed peace.

"We need the peace... it is a vital demand of our Arab and Islamic nations, especially as they confront a vicious assault by the enemies who are lurking to seize any opportunity to swoop," Saud said.

Saud was delivering an inaugural address to an emergency meeting of the foreign ministers of the six-state Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

The gathering of representatives of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, as well as Saudi Arabia, was summoned primarily to assist in breaking the deadlock in the Iran-Iraq talks.

Likud's small allies — Tehiya, the "Homeland" Party and Tzomet got a total of seven. The remaining 15 seats were forecast to go to four religious parties which lean towards Likud but which have not ruled out alliance with Labour.

In the final days of the campaign, Israelis were jarred by several acts of Palestinian violence in the 11-month anti-occupation uprising including a firebomb attack that killed four people.

U.N. calls for \$70m Sudan relief

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has called for a \$70 million emergency relief campaign to aid up to 2.5 million Sudanese people who need food, shelter, and medical attention.

The problem of the Sudanese displaced by the torrential rains of Aug. 4-5 and subsequent floods is compounded by civil war in the south, pockets of drought and famine, locust infestation and the large number of refugees in the country.

In his appeal, circulated in a document released this week, Perez de Cuellar called attention to the plight of the displaced people fleeing the civil conflict in the south.

"The condition of the displaced... is appalling. The majority of those arriving in the camps are women and children; there are few men between the ages of 12 and 40," his report said.

"Many families have suffered personal attacks,

family members have been separated and lost and most are in an extremely poor state of nutrition and health.

"There are large numbers of orphans or abandoned children above six years of age; few below six years of age have survived," reported the secretary-general.

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) launched a rebellion in the south in 1983, demanding greater autonomy and economic reforms. Up to 200 families a day leave the south and head for the relative safety of the north, said the report.

Perez de Cuellar said August rains inundated more than 80 per cent of Khartoum, destroying all the belongings of many people who lived in settlements in low-lying areas.

Providing relief for all those needing it will cost at least \$69.7 million, said the report.

Rifai: Likud win disaster for peace

By Alistair Lyon
Reuters

AMMAN — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said Tuesday an Israeli election victory for the right-wing Likud Party of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir would be a "recipe for disaster."

"If the Likud wins the elections and the new government implements their declared platform, namely that they consider the occupied territories as integral parts of Israel and the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza as foreigners living on Israeli soil, then obviously that is a recipe for disaster," Rifai told Reuters in an interview.

"There will be no peace process and no chance for a negotiated settlement," he said.

"This doesn't mean that if Labour wins there will be peace the next day, but at least they are willing to accept the basic principle of (U.N. Security Council Resolution) 242, which is the exchange of territory for peace," Rifai said.

"They realise that the West Bank and Gaza are Palestinian territories occupied by Israel and Palestinians living there are people under occupation. That's a good basis to start," he added.

Rifai said Jordan was also watching closely the U.S. presidential election due in a week's time.

"Whoever is elected, we be-

lieve top priority should be given to the Middle East, not to allow the situation to deteriorate further," he said.

Jordan hoped Moscow and Washington would cooperate on the Middle East as they had done to try to solve other regional conflicts around the world in the past few months, the prime minister said.

"We understand the PNC (Palestine National Council) scheduled to meet Nov. 12-14 in Algiers will declare a Palestinian state and independence on the basis of (1947 U.N.) General Assembly Resolution 181, and then ask for the convening of an international conference," Rifai said.

"We hope the position they take will be accepted internationally and will be a contribution on the Arab and Palestinian side to push the peace process forward," he said.

Rifai said the recent meeting in Aqaba among Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and His Majesty King Hussein had been



Zaid Rifai

very positive. "The PLO is now responsible (for the West Bank), and they feel the weight of responsibility. They don't consider us competitors any more and there are no sensitivities," he said.

Arafat said at Aqaba he wanted a confederation between Jordan and a future independent Palestinian state, but the King told him the idea was premature, Rifai said.

"If we are talking about a confederation between two independent states, then this contractual agreement will have to be discussed in detail after the creation of a Palestinian independent state," he said.

Rifai said the Feb. 11, 1985 accord between Jordan and the PLO had been designed to meet U.S. and Israeli objections to PLO participation in a peace conference.

Tie seen in Israeli elections but Likud may have edge

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel television Tuesday night forecast a tie in Israel's parliament elections between Shimon Peres' left-of-centre Labour Party and Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud Bloc.

However, the poll indicated the Likud would be able to form a government with small religious and right-wing parties. The survey suggested the right would get 62 seats and the left 58.

The forecast was based on an exit poll conducted after voting ended at 10 p.m. (2000 GMT). The television survey was based on a post-election poll of voters at 46 polling stations.

Likud Finance Minister Moshe Nissim said: "If this reflects the reality it's clear that Labour has no coalition to block the Likud."

"Yitzhak Shamir will form the next government," he declared.

Israel TV reported that initial Labour reaction was one of disappointment. According to the TV poll, Labour and Likud would each get 40 seats. Labour's allies — the Citizens' Rights Movement, Shitui and Mapam — would get a total of 11 seats and Arabs-oriented Communist Party and Progressive List for Peace an additional seven.

Likud's small allies — Tehiya, the "Homeland" Party and Tzomet got a total of seven.

The remaining 15 seats were forecast to go to four religious parties which lean towards Likud but which have not ruled out alliance with Labour.

In the final days of the campaign, Israelis were jarred by several acts of Palestinian violence in the 11-month anti-occupation uprising including a firebomb attack that killed four people.

Politicians from both the left and right said the climate of violence could swing undecided votes to Likud.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation, in a commentary carried by its news agency, Wafa, said Shamir may have instigated the attack on a bus in Jericho "for electoral reasons."

"The responsibility of Shamir and his gang in the attack on the Israeli bus cannot be excluded, particularly in that the present prime minister or his predecessor Menachem Begin were the instigators of multiple crimes committed by Zionist pioneers against Jews to gather support and sympathy for their movement," the commentator wrote.

"It is clear that the general outcry in Israel over this incident as well as the cries of hatred and vengeance launched by Israeli radio is part of the electoral campaign," Wafa said.

The agency also noted what it said were "contradictions" by Israeli officials who speak first of an attack against a civilian bus and then against a military bus. Election turnout among Israel's 2.9 million eligible voters was expected to exceed 80 per cent.

A huge security force of 13,000 police and civil guards protected the 4,800 polling sites. The army sealed off the occupied lands,

where a Palestinian general strike was taking place.

Significant election results were not expected until early Wednesday. In a close vote, it could take days or weeks to know the winner, especially if the two parties vied for support among seven religious parties who have often held the balance of power.

Opinion polls had previously shown 20 per cent of the voters undecided after a campaign focusing on the future of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Election officials said the percentage of turnout was highest among Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip where 85 per cent had voted by 8 p.m. analysts said these voters were likely to favour right-wing parties.

As voting was underway, Palestinians hurled flaming bottles of gasoline into a car carrying three Likud Bloc campaign volunteers in Arab Jerusalem. A 23-year-old Israeli was seriously hurt when her hair caught fire.

Police said in late afternoon that there had been 118 election violations, including about 31 scuffles around ballot boxes.

The jitters were registered in the black market where the shekel fell to 2 to 1 against the U.S. dollar, from 1.8 to the dollar. The official exchange rate is 1.6.

Polisario: Referendum unlikely before 1990

GENEVA (R) — No referendum is likely on the future of the disputed Western Sahara before February 1990, the Polisario Front, battling for independence from Morocco, said Tuesday.

Morocco and the Polisario guerrillas last August tentatively approved a United Nations peace plan providing for a ceasefire followed by a referendum in the territory.

No date has been set for either. Mustapha Bechir Sayed, the Polisario's number two, told reporters after meeting U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar that contentious issues still stood in the way of a final agreement which could come in February 1989.

"I think that if we hold a referendum one year after signing a definite accord we will have done a very good job," he added. Sayed, who is in charge of external relations in the Polisario's executive committee, said

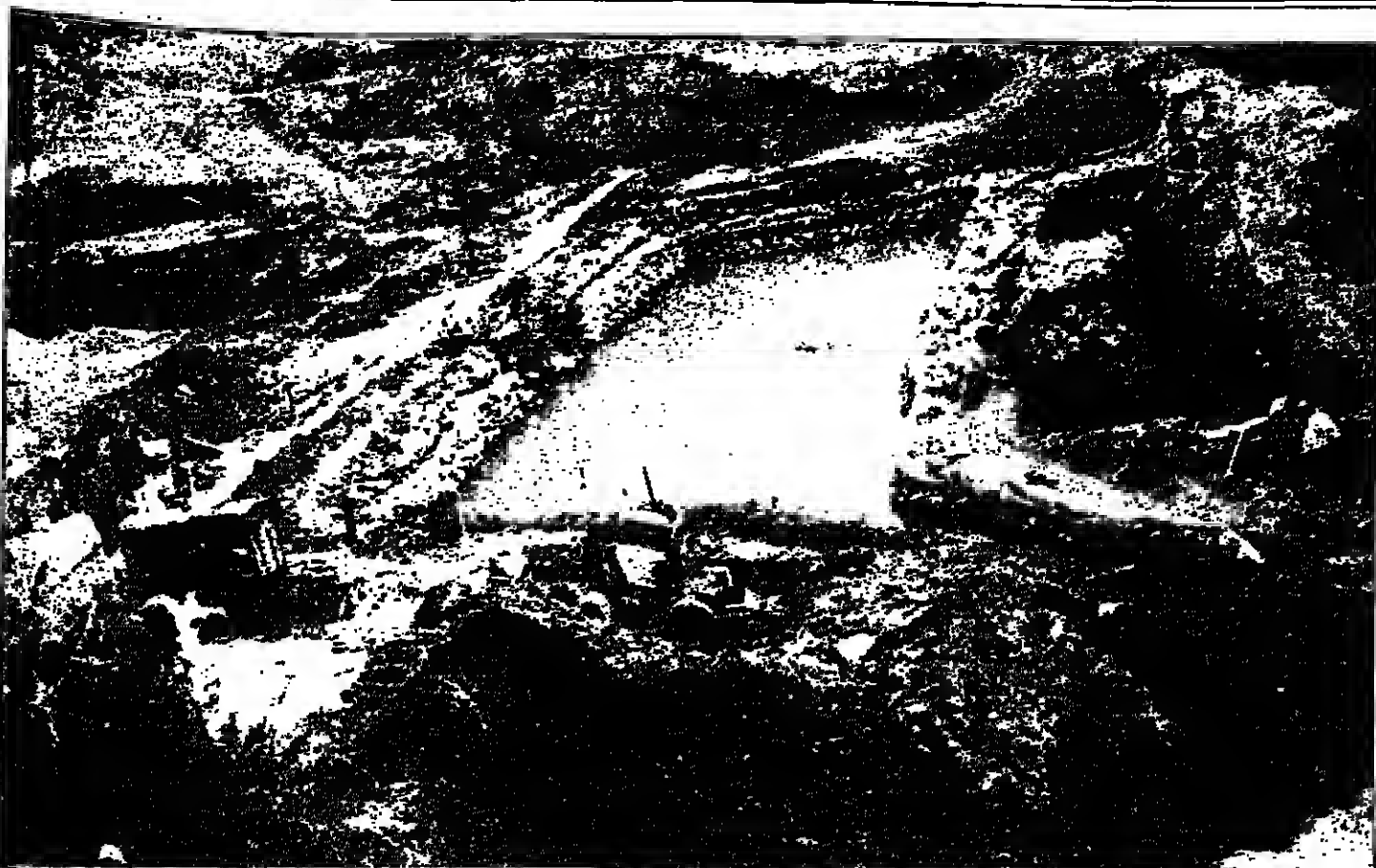
that since guerrillas and Moroccan troops had fought for more than 13 years, "one or two years do not seem too long."

He said the Polisario still wanted direct talks.

Morocco refuses, saying the guerrillas are mercenaries fighting on behalf of neighbouring Algeria, and the two sides have been holding "proximity talks" with the U.N. as go-between.

Hector Gross Espiell, a Uruguayan diplomat named earlier this month as the secretary-general's personal representative for the Western Sahara, attended Tuesday's meeting and a similar one with a Moroccan envoy Monday.

Sayed, speaking mostly in Spanish, said unresolved issues included the size of Morocco's military and administrative presence in an interim period leading to the vote and during the referendum itself.



Fish-farming in south Azraq is one of the small-scale industries supported by the Petra Project.

Petra Project pushes principle of 'small is beautiful' in macro-economics

By Salameh Ne'matt
and Rania Atalla
Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — Stepping out of the elevator on the 14th floor of the Jordan Tower building, you are greeted with a sign on an office door carrying the name of the ancient Nabatean capital — Petra. The name actually stands for Private Enterprise and Technical Resources Assistance Project, a three-year, \$10 million project that aims at launching and improving private businesses that fail to hold the interest of risk-conscious commercial banks.

Since the establishment of the project two years ago, the handful of staff working in the high-rise Petra offices have processed over 800 applications from citizens of all over the Kingdom. At least 61 of these applications have been approved. These enterprises range from hotel training to shoe-polish manufacturing to small-scale fish-farming to rug-weaving.

Financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the project is a clear manifestation of the principle of "small is beautiful" in macro-economics.

In terms of per-capita investment, these projects employ a larger number of people for the money invested, generate revenues to involved individuals and ultimately, promote the private sector's role in the economy.

The 1986-1989 programme came at a time when the government was beginning to shift the focus to the private sector as the engine of growth in the national economy. Over the past three

years, the government has taken steps towards boosting exports, encouraging investments and liberalising the local market, in a bid to encourage the private sector to play a larger role in the economy under a better investment climate and conditions.

The Petra project, coordinated with several government ministries and institutions, provides expert consultations and studies that encourage sound, sustainable business ideas, contributing to productivity, employment, and foreign exchange earnings.

The programme works as follows: Interested individuals or groups submit proposals to the Petra office for preliminary technical and financial analysis. Proposals accepted by the Petra staff are presented to a nine-member committee for final decision. The committee, which takes into consideration the project manager's and analyst's recommendation, consists of a representative each from the following institutions: The Ministry of Planning, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Central Bank of Jordan, the Industrial Development Bank, the Cities and Villages Development Bank, the Agricultural Credit Corporation, the Chamber of Industry and the head of the USAID mission in Jordan.

Financing is divided between grants and loans, and on a cost sharing basis. Loans are based on cash flow analyses, rather than on collateral, and are only available where traditional lending institutions refuse assistance.

One of the latest projects approved and financed by Petra is

the establishment of a Jordanian Exporters Association, which groups 25 distinguished businesses in all ages and different abilities and backgrounds. According to Petra's Project Manager Hakam Khair, the non-profit association was supported because it aims at fostering and supporting exports of Jordanian private sector commodities and services.

The association also aims at gathering information essential for exporters with regards to foreign markets, distribution channels, international trade regulations, and technical specifications and standards.

Khair said Petra provided the project with JD 77,000 in grants to cover the administrative function of the association for the next three years, while the founders will put about JD 82,000 which is coming from the members' initiation and subscription fees.

Membership in the association will be opened for interested businessmen after the association establishes itself.

"We feel that this is an excellent project because it fosters Jordanian exports of agricultural produce, industrial products and services," Khair told the Jordan Times. "This will open new job opportunities and generate foreign currency for the Kingdom."

Another recently-approved enterprise is the first National Centre for Occupational Therapy.

Applicants for this project were a consortium of charitable societies whose aim is to establish a very much needed centre of this type, as an essential part of the health services system in the country.

Khair explained that occupational therapy is related to rehabilitation, involving people of all ages and different abilities and backgrounds. "It focuses on the treatment of physical and psychological conditions through specific activities to help people reach their maximum level of function and independence in all aspects of daily life," he added.

There are only two occupational therapists in Jordan. The centre will train as many as 30 therapists. Petra provided JD 36,000 as a grant for the JD 150,000 centre, and the remaining funds will be paid by other sources including the European Community, the General Union of Voluntary Societies, the British Council and private individuals.

According to the project manager, part of Petra's objective is to preserve the country's cultural heritage and to enhance women's productivity in society.

Petra has provided a JD 125,500 grant to Noor Al Hussein Foundation to promote and develop the handicraft industry in the Kingdom. It hopes to expand the market for traditional Jordanian handicrafts, craft techniques and stimulating appreciation for them, creating employment for involved communities, improving the quality of contemporary handicrafts in addition to coordinating among the various organisations presently engaged in crafts production.

Khair said the project will establish a "national handicraft committee" to advise producers on marketing strategies by monitoring the market and responding to its needs.

Another major activity is the establishment of a multi-purpose handicraft marketing and development centre which would focus on developing new products, designs and focus on domestic and export sales, and skill and management training. It will also develop and diversify marketable products such as embroidery. The project is hoped to create new job opportunities in training management, retail sale and marketing.

"A large number of these jobs are for women," Khair commented. "It will also create large volumes of part-time employment, generating additional income for families," he said the Bani Hamida rug-weaving project has created jobs for 250 women.

He explained that the problem with the handicraft industry is that all charitable societies manufacture handicrafts but cannot market their products. "The purpose of the project is to organise and coordinate their work to prevent duplication. It will assist practically every organisation in the field."

On the criteria adopted to determine which projects receive grants and which get loans, and on what terms, Khair said that priority in offering grants goes to non-profit organisations that help develop remote and under-developed areas in the Kingdom.

He said interest charged on loans ranged between zero and eight per cent. "The ratio of grant to loan in any given project depends on the concept and extent of innovation, job opportunities, and the promotion of the role of women on the quality of applications for grants or loans."

Khair said applicants usually bring in basic studies which are usually enough to determine whether or not the project meets the general criteria.

The Petra staff then carry out more extensive and detailed studies if needed before submitting the project for approval by the Petra committee.

On another Petra grant involvement, Khair said the Salt Development Corporation has received a \$148,500 grant for the renovation of the old city of Salt and its historic character. He said that there are plans to renovate the old town area, to preserve it and stimulate private sector enterprise, and, subsequently, improve the socio-economic well-being of its residents.

To date, Petra has allocated funds in grants and loans estimated at JD 996,000 for private businesses. They were distributed as follows: 38 projects received a total grant value of JD 591,000, twenty three projects received JD 405,000 in loans, bringing the total to 61 projects.

The grants are normally provided to non-profit organisations, training projects, cultural activities, technical assistance and feasibility studies.

Petra's project analyst Azmi Tubbeh, said Petra was the first to respond to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's call for a new approach to venture capital investment by financial institutions.



Petra Project covers Jerash Festival activities which aims at promoting the country's heritage.

He said Petra has agreed to finance a new venture capital project under which a financial agency for technology development would become a shareholder in a financial company to make it more profitable through more advanced technology. The venture capital would pull out of the company once it was profitable and had gone public.

He said the same approach could be applied to develop generic software technology or computer assembly.

In the long run, the new formula is hoped to establish Jordan as a mid-level technology centre. Tubbeh said Petra was, in effect, helping many individuals and organisations who are "incapable of undertaking such projects due to financial constraints or difficulties in the transfer of technology."

Petra projects also cover raising livestock the pickles industry, mosquito killer tablets, a rubber sweeper factor, Jerash Festival activities, tourism information and other innovative projects helping the tourism industry in addition to documenting tourist and antiquity sites in Jordan.

Of the total number of projects approved by the Petra staff and presented to the committee for approval, 75 per cent are endorsed.

Petra was originally designed to be part of USAID's private sector development programme, in USAID's view, Jordan's two most serious economic problems are foreign exchange shortages and growing unemployment.

"Petra aims at directing investment to improve productivity and marketing, to increase private sector investment in productive sectors and to increase employment as a result of improved productivity and increased private sector investment," a USAID publication says.

"Improved private sector productivity is essential to reducing the cost of manufacturers, agricultural produce and business services and to making Jordan more

competitive in domestic and export markets."

USAID, which works closely with concerned government ministries and institutions, believes that increased investment of private funds, both remittances from expatriate Jordanians and savings from the domestic population, in productive enterprises will enable Jordan to create expanded production capacity. This greater capacity will broaden Jordan's economic base, both for exports and import substitution.

Greater productivity, better

marketing, greater investment and a broader economic base are expected to lead to more employment opportunities for Jordan's well-educated population.

Despite positive public reaction to the idea behind the Petra project, questions remain as to whether the project will be renewed for another three-year term. Neither USAID, nor the Petra staff or the government, would predict that the project would go further than September 1989, the end of the three-year programme.



Save the Children's Bani Hamida rug-weaving project is funded by Petra Project to enhance women's productivity in society and preserve Jordan's cultural heritage.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 723111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:50 Programme review
16:00 Children's programmes
16:30 Football
16:50 News summary in Arabic
17:00 Local programme
17:10 Cairo news message
17:20 Local series
17:30 News in Arabic
17:40 Arabic series
17:50 Programme review
18:00 News in Arabic
18:10 Arabic series
18:20 Local programme
18:30 News summary in Arabic
18:40 Wrestling

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Champions Elysees
17:40 News in French
17:50 Aujourd'hui En Jordanie
18:00 News in Hebrew
18:10 News in Arabic
18:20 Korea, the Unknown War
18:30 News in English
18:40 Gentlemen and Players
18:50 Married with Children

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
Tel: 74111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 Morning Show
08:45 Morning Show Contd.
09:00 Animal Vegetable Mineral
09:30 Book Club
09:40 News Summary
10:00 Pop Session
10:10 News Summary
10:20 News Bulletin
10:30 The Young Sound
10:40 Concert Hour
10:50 News in Summary
11:00 Old Favourites
11:10 Jordan Weekly
11:20 Pop Session
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MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9555, 11740.
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His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday presents certificates to armed forces personnel who underwent a special course in security (Petra photo).

Prince Hassan attends graduation of officers

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday attended a ceremony for the graduation of group of army officers who have completed training in security and protection skills.

The graduates presented a performance of their skills and practical exercises as well as target

shooting exercises on stationary and mobile targets. Prince Hassan later distributed certificates and awards to the officers.

The ceremony was attended by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and senior military officers.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

CONDOLENCES: His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday delegated the Karak governor to convey his condolences to Allawi family on the death of the late Mahmoud Allawi (Petra).

PRINCE RA'AD VISITS VTC: Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ibn Zaid Tuesday called at the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) where he was briefed about its activities by the chairman of the board of directors (Petra).

IRBID DIVIDED INTO 7 ZONES: Irbid Municipal Council Sunday took a decision, whereby the city will be divided into seven zones for the purposes of providing better municipal services to citizens, and to facilitate the process of street naming and numbering (Petra).

BADRAN LEAVES FOR IRAQ: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Secretary General Ibrahim Badran Tuesday left for Baghdad for talks with Iraqi officials on means of enhancing bilateral cooperation in the field of energy (Petra).

TECHNICAL AID MANAGEMENT: A regional symposium on technical cooperation, organised by the Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences, in cooperation with the World Bank's Economic Development Institute, continued its meetings in Amman and discussed a working paper on institutional dimensions of the technical aid management (Petra).

KAYED TO HEAD TEAM TO TUNIS: The Free Zones Corporation Director General, Yasin Al Kayed will represent the corporation in the four-day pan-Arab conference of businessmen and investors, due to be held in Tunis Saturday (Petra).

COURSE ON ENERGY PLANNING: A six-week training course on energy planning in the Arab World, organised by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources in cooperation with the European Community and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, was held at the Jordan Electricity Authority Tuesday (Petra).

PETRA RECEIVES THANKS: The Housing Corporation Tuesday voiced appreciation to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, for its coverage of the symposium on reduction of housing costs, which was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Oct. 17 (Petra).

CAEU CHIEF LEAVES FOR KUWAIT: Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Secretary General Hassan Ibrahim Tuesday left for Kuwait for a two-day visit, during which he will hold talks with Kuwaiti officials on the CAEU general secretariat activities and pan-Arab economic issues, in addition to the agenda of the forthcoming session of the council which will be held in Amman next month (Petra).

CIVIL AVIATION TALKS: — Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority Mahmoud Jamal Balqas discussed with his Turkish counterpart Esat Arslan bilateral relations and prospects of increasing the number of the Royal Jordanian flights to Turkey with a view to promoting tourism between both countries (Petra).

INFLUENCE OF MEDICINE: A seminar on the influence of information media on culture in the Arab World which is being held in Cairo Tuesday reviewed a working paper submitted by Dr. Hisham Ghassib from the Royal Scientific Society (RSS). In his paper entitled "international information media: the danger or a challenge?" Ghassib discussed different theories projected by the information media in modern societies and the effect of mass media on social life.

Ma'an begins educational projects worth JD 420,000

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has embarked on the construction of a number of educational projects in Ma'an Governorate at a total cost of JD 420,000, the Ma'an Education Department sources said Tuesday.

The projects include the construction of two schools in Al

Qa'a and Ruweis at a cost of JD 100,000 each and a third compulsory school in Nawafleh neighbourhood in Wadi Mousa sub-district at a cost of JD 220,000. The Education Department has also constructed 8 houses for teachers at a total cost of JD 55,000 in the governorate's villages.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

ART EXHIBITIONS

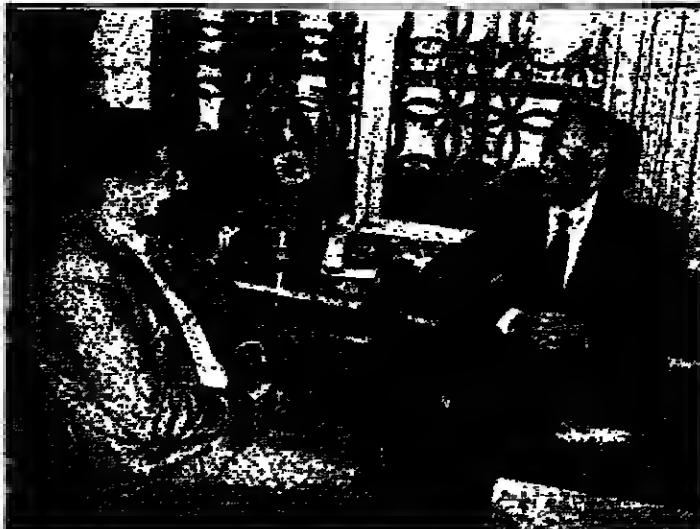
- ★ A paintings exhibition by Sudanese artist Mohammed Khalil, at Al Wadi Gallery, Plaza Hotel.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ahmed Na'wash at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ A plastic art exhibition by Iyad Al Masri at the Housing Bank Complex.

OTHER EXHIBITIONS

- ★ A book exhibition at the civilian wing of Ma'ta University.
- ★ Islamic book exhibition at the Islamic Cultural Centre for Men in Karak.
- ★ A library cultural festival at the public library in the Municipality Building of Kufra, Ajlun — 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture in French on the origins of man by Denis Geraud at the French Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.



Lawzi receives Tunisian envoy

Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi confer in his office Tuesday with Tunisian Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Al Manji Al Habib. They discussed Jordanian-Tunisian relations and cooperation in parliamentary affairs (Petra photo).

Arab Red Crescent societies to discuss aid to Palestinians

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day meeting by Arab Red Crescent and Red Crescent societies, which is due to open in Cairo on Saturday, is expected to discuss means of providing assistance to the Palestinian people under Israeli rule, according to Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) President Ahmad Abu Qoura.

Abu Qoura said in a statement on leaving for Cairo that the delegates will also discuss assistance to Arab societies affected by natural and other disasters, and the establishment of a documentation and research centre as well as cooperation among Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross societies.

Abu Qoura said he will submit a working paper to the meeting dealing with the international humanitarian law. The activities of Arab societies in North Africa and the Middle East as well as cooperation between the International Committee of the Red Cross and Arab Red Crescent societies will be among the other topics at the meeting.

ENVOY TO URUGUAY: The cabinet Tuesday endorsed the appointment of Wael Tounqan, Jordan's ambassador to Chile, as Jordan's non-resident ambassador to Uruguay (Petra).

New training course begins on school health

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-week training course on school health concluded Tuesday at Zarqa Health Department and a new, and similar two-week course started the same day with 12 nurses participating.

The health education programme was the main subject of discussion at a meeting held Sunday between Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and regional directors of the World Health Organisation's East Mediterranean Region Hussein Al Gezairi, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa Richard Reid and the United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Mohammad Ibrahim Kazem.

The three directors also discussed this subject with Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Thouqan Hindawi.

Jordan is one of five Arab countries where this project is going to be implemented according to a press release issued by UNICEF regional office in Amman.

The other four Arab countries are Egypt, Sudan, Morocco and Bahrain.

CDD marks Prophet's Birthday

AMMAN (Petra) — Civil Defence Director Khalid Tarawneh Tuesday attended a celebration held by the CDD to mark Prophet Mohammad's birthday at which he spoke, stressing that adherence to the regulations of Islam is the source of the strength of the Muslim nation.

The Prophet's leadership of the Muslim nation achieved a qualitative leap in their progress he pointed out after decades of ignorance and an absence of the rules and regulations that govern the relations between the various elements of the society.

Also addressing the celebration

Bonn minister, Jordanian officials discuss cooperation

Rifai and Schafer review Middle East developments

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — West German Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Helmut Schafer met with Jordanian officials here Tuesday to discuss Middle East developments and economic and technical cooperation between West Germany and Jordan.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Schafer reviewed the region's current developments and discussed Jordanian-West German relations in the presence of Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and West German Ambassador to Jordan Herwig Bartels, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra said that Schafer had earlier met with Masri and reviewed the Middle East situation and exchanged views on means to find a just and durable settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine problem through an international peace conference.

The two ministers exchanged views about stimulating the Euro-Arab dialogue and bolstering bilateral cooperation in various fields. Both expressed satisfaction with the continually progressing bilateral ties.

During the meeting Masri urged the Bonn government to

display more interest in the Middle East issues and to exert efforts within the European Community to put pressure on Israel to stop its inhuman practices in the occupied Arab territories, according to the agency.

The meeting was attended by Bartels and a number of foreign Ministry officials.

Schafer later met with Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib to discuss bilateral cooperation in energy-related fields. Khatib and senior ministry officials briefed the West German minister on major activities and programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Energy and its affiliated departments in electricity, petroleum, natural resources, alternative energy resources, scientific and technological applications, as well as projects being implemented in Jordan with West German assistance.

Schafer spoke at the meeting, paying tribute to the Ministry of Energy for its achievements, and said that his country will be ready to promote bilateral cooperation and help Jordanian institutions through training their personnel in energy-related fields.

Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan later met with Schafer and his accompanying delegation with whom he reviewed economic cooperation between West Germany and Jordan and economic and technical programmes being implemented here with West German assistance since the conclusion of a bilateral agreement in 1977.

Kanaan said Jordan attached great importance on bilateral cooperation in economic and technical fields and voiced Jordan's appreciation to West Germany for its financing of Jordanian development projects.

West Germany is estimated to have provided Jordan with nearly DM 35 million in soft loans and DM 15 million in grants and technical assistance in the form of equipment, training and expertise to help promote Jordan's development programme.

Schafer and his accompanying delegation later called at the Higher Council of Science and Technology and was briefed on national programmes in the field of technology, and the council's cooperation in this field with Arab and international organisations.

The council's Secretary General Adnan Badran and Royal Scientific Society President Jawad Al Anani accompanied Schafer on a tour of the council's sections and briefed on their duties.

Schafer also visited the Royal Scientific Society and toured its Solar Power Research Centre where he was briefed on solar energy programmes in rural regions of Jordan.

Anani and Badran discussed with Schafer West German-Jordanian cooperation in technology-related fields.

On Tuesday evening, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri hosted a dinner at Amman Plaza Hotel in honour of the West German minister and his delegation.

Several ministers and senior officials as well as the ambassadors of West Germany, and those of the European Community states in Amman were present.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Tuesday receives West German Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Helmut Schafer in his office. Earlier Tuesday Schafer held talks with Foreign Minister Taher Masri (right).



Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib (below left), and Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan (below right) (Petra photos).



GUVS gets JD 11,000 from USAID

AMMAN (J.T.) — Projects sponsored by eight member societies of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) have recently benefited from a grant of JD 11,000 contributed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Special education centres for mentally handicapped children run by the Mental Health Society at Jabal Weibdeh and Wadi Seer will be refurbishing their kitchens and providing educational materials. A new oven and refrigerator will be among the purchases. The centre at Wadi Seer is Jordan's only residential facility and cares for children whose homes are too far away from other education centres for them to come to school by bus each day.

Wadi Musa Welfare Society will purchase a tractor with accessories for ploughing the land of local farmers. The ploughing service offered by the society will

help traditional farmers to expand areas under cultivation as well as generate income for society activities. In a similar effort, the Almagariya Society for Social Development will also purchase a tractor.

The Ibein Welfare Society and the Rural Society at Krayma will each provide five needy families with a pair of Shami goats to raise. The families will benefit

from milk production, and eventual income production as the goats reproduce. Under the scheme, the societies will be given the first offspring of the goats to assist additional needy families.

Other projects funded recently include sewing workshops being developed by the Young Women's Association of Tefilah and the Jerash Women's Society.

New envoy to Greece presents credentials

ATHENS (Petra) — Jordan's Ambassador to Greece Samir Khalifa has presented his credentials to Greek President Christos Sartzetakis and conveyed to him greetings from His Majesty King Hussein wishing him continued happiness and health and the

Greek people more progress and prosperity.

The Greek president asked the ambassador to convey his greetings to King Hussein and paid tribute to the strong relations between the two countries.



Armed Forces Mufti Sheikh Noh Salehman Tuesday speaks during the Civil Defence Department celebrations of Prophet Mohammad's Birthday.

Also present is CDD Director Lt.-Gen. Khaled Tarawneh (Petra photo).

Pan-Arab meeting seeks to include music, computers in school curricula

CAIRO (Petra) — A pan-Arab symposium under the theme "towards a better cultural future for Arab children" concluded here Tuesday with a number of recommendations.

Among the 400 participants were representatives of the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund, Nonr Al Hussein Foundation, and the Children's Club, in addition to a number of other Jordanian institutions concerned with children.

Participants called on the Arab Council for Childhood Develop-

ment to urge Arab ministries of education to include basic information on music and theatrical activities and computers in school curricula.

The symposium stressed the need for providing access to children's books and magazines and to making them available at reduced prices. The participants stressed the need for action on the governmental level, with a view to exempting or reducing customs duties on materials used for the production of children's books and magazines.

The symposium further recommended that radio and television corporations direct special attention to children's programmes and encouraged the exchange of expertise in the field of children's programmes. It also called for organising an Arab festival for children's programmes and a child film week.

The symposium stressed the need for setting up a child theatre and for standardising musical curricula as also for establishing centres for educating parents, and for the welfare of gifted children.



Hamzeh lays foundation stones

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Tuesday laid the foundation stones for two new health centres in Ras Al Ain and Juwadeh in the outskirts of Amman.

The costs of the Ras Al Ain Comprehensive Health Centre, which will be built on an area of

1,150 square metres, will be JD 265,000 while the construction of costs of Juwadeh Health Centres will be JD 100,000.

The centre will be completed in May and will provide primary health care for Juwadeh and the neighbouring areas (Petra photo).

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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Postpone Shatt Al Arab

IRAN and Iraq resumed their peace talks in Geneva Monday amidst fears that the fragile ceasefire between them could break down. While the two armies are in some regions separated by a mere twenty metres, the gap between the two antagonists in their negotiating positions is much wider.

A sticking point remains the contentious issue of the Shatt Al Arab waterway which flows between the two countries, leaving the two sides virtually stranded at the first part of paragraph one of U.N. Resolution 598. Lack of progress thus far on the Shatt Al Arab waterway has effectively prevented the implementation of the other operative paragraphs of Security Council Resolution 598, which call for withdrawal of troops to international boundaries and the exchange of prisoners of war.

What could resolve this thorny problem is determination of the legality of the Algiers accords. Iraq asserts that the treaty has been rendered null and void, by the war, while Iran maintains that that treaty is still valid and its provisions on the boundary line between the two countries in that waterway are operative. It would be naive to resort to a strictly legal adjudication of this point at this stage of the negotiations in view of the extent of the devastation, both human and material, that was caused by the eight years of war. The Iran-Iraq war has created new facts and established new realities that need to be reckoned with in good faith.

If the two parties have thus far failed to bridge the gap between them on this issue, it would seem sensible to resort to arbitration on the basis of all relevant issues of fact and law. This scheme has become all the more imperative in the light of the failure of the compromise formula introduced by the U.N. secretary general to put the negotiations on track again.

May the Shatt Al Arab waterway become a waterway of friendship and cooperation between the two countries instead of a sour point derailing all efforts to bring peace and harmony to the Gulf region. When peace and tranquillity reign supreme in the Gulf the differences between the two states on sovereignty over the Shatt Al Arab waterway would become less problematic.

That is why a sound approach to this dilemma can be had by jumping over the issue of sovereignty for the time being and begin the process of dredging the Shatt and then proceed to other salient points of Resolution 598.

We have cause to believe that the goodwill generated by the implementation of the other provisions of the resolution would provide the favourable climate to resolve the most contentious issue of all, namely, the sovereignty issue over the waterway.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

AI Ra'i newspaper discussed the Israeli elections in its Tuesday's editorial and expressed the view that these elections would not result in a change in the present setup of the political parties and their future actions. Observers believe that the elections would not bring about any change in the present Israeli policies with regard to the occupied Arab territories or peace with the Arab states, the paper added. It said that the leaders of the two major parties, the Likud and Labour, have been issuing promises and statements during the election campaign merely to win the votes of the electorate. A detailed study of statements by the leaders of the two major parties will reveal that neither of them is willing to reach genuine peace, or end Israel's occupation of Arab land, the paper noted. The paper concluded by saying that as long as the Israelis continue to remain oblivious of the facts and realities in the Middle East and as long as Israeli parties remain committed to their present policies there can be no point of expecting any constructive action that would have direct bearing on the future of the occupied land.

AI Dastour daily tackled the same subject and said the elections Tuesday followed a long series of charges and counter charges and accusations by leaders of the two major parties. The current uprising and the recent resistance activity inside the occupied territories were no doubt instrumental in heating up the debates and increasing the exchange of verbal attacks between the Likud and the Labour, the paper noted. Indeed the uprising will be on the mind of all the Israelis as they cast their ballots Tuesday to elect the new Knesset members for the coming four years, the paper added. It said that the recent stepping up in Israeli repressive measures, countered by an escalated resistance campaign on the part of the Arabs coupled with the demolition of the homes of Arab resistance men, can by no means be forgiven by the electorate before or after election day. Therefore, the paper concluded, regardless of the election results, the future government of Israel will have to deal directly with the uprising and its consequences.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Reversing the trend

Writing in AI Ra'i Arabic daily columnist Mahmoud Al Rimawi reflects on the Arab bomb attack on an Israeli bus near Jericho which resulted in the death and injury of several Israelis. The Israelis, he says, have come to Palestine as mercenaries to carry out all sorts of crimes and atrocities against the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular. Zionist leaders have always said that a good Palestinian is a dead Palestinian and have directed their troops and armed settlers to dispose of the Arab inhabitants by any available means, the writer adds. By killing Arabs and demolishing their homes, the Israelis have never felt any remorse neither did they ever show any mercy on the oppressed people in any of their election campaigns or their political statements, he says. But the attack on the Israeli bus near Jericho seems to have reversed the equation for the Zionists who have killed and maimed thousands of Arab civilians, says the writer. The attack, he adds, served as a taste for the Israelis of their own crimes and their evil doings in occupied Palestine.

Chadli on course for vote of confidence

By Jonathan Clayton
Reuters

RABAT — By sacking his unpopular deputy a few days ahead of a referendum on political reform, Algerian President Chadli Benjedid has smoothed the way to a resounding vote of confidence in his leadership.

Algerians go to the polls Thursday to deliver the verdict on a

batch of political changes offered by Chadli to end bloody riots earlier this month.

A high turnout and "yes" result have been seen as essential to restore Chadli's prestige, battered by the violence in which the government says 159 people died and 154 were injured.

Analysts say the replacement of Mohammed Cherif Messaadia

— the top man in the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) after the president — was aimed at demonstrating the changes would not be cosmetic.

Messaadia, said by many Algerians to be deeply disliked by the man in the street, was the most prominent of anti-reformist party diehards who stand to lose out if the FLN's grip on power is

weakened.

During the riots, groups of youths — many unemployed — chanted anti-Messaadia slogans while they looted and burned FLN and government buildings.

Many were born long after independence from France in 1962 — won by FLN fighters in a struggle which has remained the basis of the party's claim to

power.

"He was a symbol. His departure will not be lost on the Algerian people. It says a great deal about how serious Chadli is about real reform," a North African analyst resident in Algiers told Reuters by telephone.

Messaadia's dismissal was announced in a terse statement carried by the official APS news agency Saturday. It said simply he had been "called to other

He has proposed immediate changes to the constitution to make the prime minister and government answerable to the elected national assembly. These are to be put to the people for popular approval on November 3.

Political analysts and diplomats say the outcome of the vote was never seriously in question, but the shake-up at the top would probably result in a higher turnout and fewer abstentions.

This week, Chadli outlined more measures increasing democratic control of the party, allowing non-party members to stand for elections, and removing professional organisations from the control of the party.

But he disappointed many Algerians by stopping short of allowing rival political parties. University teachers said in a statement the new reforms were insufficient and called for the release of all political prisoners.

The second batch of measures go before a FLN congress in December — only the sixth since independence. A second referendum will be held on the final package early in the new year.

Messaadia's replacement Abdul Hamid Mehri — a former ambassador to France and currently Chadli's representative to Morocco — takes over as the head of an all-important committee preparing the ground for the congress.

Analysts say Chadli's plan has clearly been to go into that congress strengthened by the result of the first referendum and the prospect of a second.

"He has boxed the opposition in between two popular votes. The people and Chadli are united against elements in the party and he is appealing to the people over their heads," a Western diplomat said.

NEWS ANALYSIS

functions."

General Medjoub Lakhal Ayat, head of an internal security organisation, was also fired. Both men have been replaced by close associates of Chadli who has sought to use the street violence to strengthen his hand against opponents to change.

Ayat headed the Delegation Generale de la Prevention et de la Securite. A new organisation created last year, it is responsible for both military and civilian security and reports directly to Chadli.

General Mohammed Betchine who takes over from Ayat is an old ally of Chadli. He currently holds the president's former command in the third military region on the Moroccan border, where most of Algerian firepower is concentrated.

Analysts say his appointment shows that Chadli is using the opportunity offered by the disturbances to promote supporters.

Chadli vowed during the riots that economic austerity measures, which sparked them, would not be abandoned. But he pledged they would be complemented by measures introducing greater freedom into Algeria's one-party state.

OPEN FORUM

Leave them alone

I am fortunate to be able to communicate my thoughts to your readers. I spent many days writing this article. It comes from the heart and I felt the urge to write as a concerned Arab American, who physically and emotionally went through most of these events since the partition of Palestine in 1947. The continuous war in Palestine is felt all over the world. It is time to think of new peace concepts for yours and all people. I am grateful for the opportunity to write to you.

Lutfi H. Amra
1221 Sylvan Road
Cleveland Heights, OH 44121

THE PALESTINIANS have suffered and continue to suffer immensely at the hands of their occupiers since the turn of this century. They were deprived of independence, and paid dearly for no crimes of their own, always struggled to attain freedom to run their lives freely from occupiers, whenever they may be. The present occupiers are blind to the fact that they are unwanted. These strangers covet the land without the people. To reach their goals, they have implemented means to continuously terrorise the inhabitants to pre-empt the land from Arab ownership. Arabs massacred at Deir Yassin 1948, in Kaser Qasem 1956 and in Samu 1966 are unpleasant reminders. Examples can be cited of how Palestinians endured the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. The Palestinians were robbed of every aspect of dignity and freedom. Witness their bridge-crossing over the Jordan River, returning for an emotional visit to their homes under Israeli control, you will observe Israeli security strip-search all Palestinians, women and men of all ages. All Arabs are stopped out for this embarrassing and inhumane treatment, in spite of the fact that they might possess USA passports.

During twenty years, the Israeli rule has stamped Palestinian growth. No real progress has been made under occupation. The Palestinians are prevented from developing their own economical, cultural, and political institutions. Possessing a Palestinian emblem is severely punished. Occupation has stifled all forms of indigenous institutions, and prevented establishing a technical or an engineering university. Not a single hotel was built during the years of occupation. Thus Israeli guides hurry the tourists through Arab communities. Instead, guides instruct their visitors to spend their time and money in modern Israeli cities. Other activities such as social, drama, and literary clubs were forbidden. This forced the people to practice secretly their folk dancing, and sing their ballads, which were true expressions of their love for their land and their leaders. Occupation has been a nightmare which is hurting everyone. The young don't sleep in peace, because of night searches and arrests. Thousands of teenagers, interrogated by the Israeli police, ended up in jails and were prevented from an education and livelihood.

The Palestinian dreams are simple and real. They dream of smelling air on top of their mountains and down in the valleys. They dream of swimming in the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, Lake Tiberias, even the Mediterranean Sea. These dreams will not come true, because the land is a military zone and Arab movement is severely restricted. The Arabs have stopped breathing freely under occupation. They risk the wrath of Israeli soldiers, if caught without special permits. This racial identity card was issued immediately by Israel after the 1967 war, without regard to the thousands of Palestinians who were caught inadvertently living, working, and studying outside the occupied land. These are some conditions Arabs have endured in the West Bank and Gaza during twenty years of occupation. In essence, the people have been forced to stop functioning as human beings with explicit desires to live free. Occupation masked the evil desire of the conquerors: to hold onto the land, to remove its people, to erase their culture, language and history.

These schemes propelled the indigenous population to repeat aggression in the form of civil disobedience, since December 1987. This is the intifadah, an uprising which was brewing since occupation commenced in 1967. History has taught us a lesson, that military rule, synonymous to oppression, is doomed to failure. Furthermore, an encounter movement, sooner or later, will courage and self sacrifice. Its purpose is to erase Israeli rule, or gain momentum to challenge oppression. This intifadah is an act of the Arab population. The Palestinians are suffocating in their land. They are proud and patient. The occupiers tear gas is hurting and killing innocent women and children in the Holyland. This uprising is a noble disobedience. It will prevail, as did others, hundreds of years ago. Invaders come and go. As a reminder, the Crusaders from Medieval Europe lost after a 200 years sojourn in Palestine. The Crusaders of the twentieth century, if not careful, might find and give up in failure. The courageous Palestinians are rebelling with simple means; challenging the mightiest conqueror. Their demands are simple: Leave us alone, so we can live and die in peace. Return our land which was confiscated. Don't uproot our trees. Don't demolish our houses. Our women and children are being injured and killed daily by your soldiers. Our women and children are screaming loudly for the world to see and hear. Our request is simple: Let the Palestinians be free; stop killing them, and leave them alone.

Ataturk memory endures

By John Owen-Davies
Reuters

ANKARA — Fifty years after his death Mustafa Kemal Ataturk remains the driving force behind Turkey but mourning is no longer obligatory.

Unlike every November 10 since Ataturk died in 1938, this year there will be no ban on selling liquor. Restaurants and cinemas will stay open and state-run radio and television (TRT) will run normal programmes instead of mainly sombre music.

This break with tradition is viewed widely as a move to instill into new generations that Ataturk, modern Turkey's secularist founder, was not a deity.

"The time has come to break

away from the irrational taboos that have made Ataturk into a god. Ataturk was not a god but a great human being," the Turkish Daily News said in an editorial.

Culture and Tourism Minister Tmaz Tizit said: "If mourning is compulsory it does not fulfil the intention behind it and we have seen this."

"No result can be obtained from things done by force and for this reason we will not release a list of orders on this day (November 10) ... The course of life for the day should not be changed," he told reporters.

Tizit said sirens would still wail at 9:05 a.m., the time of death of Ataturk, who applied secularism to predominantly Muslim Turkey, banned wearing of the fez,

introduced Latin script to his people and abolished the sultanate of the Ottoman Empire.

Some Turks believe the government's decision on mourning Ataturk is long overdue.

National symbol

"This novel approach should have been taken about 25 years ago. On past November 10s some people went to video shops to get pornographic and other films because there was nothing else to do in the evening," one Turkish official said.

Mustafa Kemal, who took the surname Ataturk (father Turk) in 1934, is revered by most Turks in a way many foreigners find surprising.

'Global AIDS epidemic gaining momentum'

By Jim Fuller

WASHINGTON — The AIDS epidemic, largely confined to the United States, Africa and parts of Europe two years ago, is starting to gain a foothold in virtually every corner of the globe, according to a report by a well-known international organisation.

The Panos Institute, an independent information service on development issues, reported October 21 that the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) has spread to Asia, the Middle East and East Europe; and in Latin America and the Caribbean there are epidemics as severe as, and in many cases more severe than, those in North America, Western Europe and Australia.

"Our report shows that, despite unprecedented public health campaigns in many countries, the virus worldwide is still gathering momentum," said Renee Sabatier, head of the Panos AIDS unit and editor of the report entitled, "AIDS and the Third World." The institute's report on the status of global AIDS is its third in as many years.

While the number of reported AIDS cases in Asia is still relatively low, it is rising, according to the study. So far Japan has officially reported 66 AIDS cases, Thailand 12 and the Philippines 13. All other Asian countries have reported fewer than 10 cases. The report adds, however, that underreporting remains a problem due to lack of diagnostic

facilities and perhaps the fear of some governments that accurate reporting will damage the tourist industry.

The report said that, per million population, the most severe epidemics in Latin America are in Brazil with 2,956 officially reported cases, Mexico with 1,302 cases and French Guiana with 113 cases. Most Central American countries have officially reported between 10 and 100 cases per million population.

Sabatier said that according to international health organisations, 150,000 new cases of full-blown AIDS are expected worldwide this year — as many as have occurred in all the years of the epidemic so far. The World Health Organisation (WHO) predicts that there could be as many as one million AIDS cases by 1993.

The report said recent mathematical models of the AIDS epidemic, based on conservative estimates of present infection, indicate that the disease has a destructive potential greater than that of the bubonic plague. The only difference is that the impact of AIDS will take much longer to show up — decades instead of years.

The same models predict that AIDS in some African countries is likely to reverse population growth over a period of decades, unless current trends in infection and mortality can be changed.

The study also reports that while in Africa AIDS has been transmitted heterosexually from

the start, "a disquieting pattern is emerging" as evidence suggests that heterosexual transmission of the disease is steadily taking hold in other areas of the world.

Up to now the vast majority of AIDS cases in these countries, as well as in North America and in Europe, have occurred among homosexual or bisexual men and among intravenous drug users.

But there is also good news. The report said that in global terms governments and the international system have responded to the challenge of AIDS with a speed and vigour that is probably unprecedented.

The report said that while few government leaders had personally committed themselves to these anti-AIDS programmes, African presidents Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia were notable exceptions.

"These two leaders have played a key role in persuading decision-makers and media in some other African countries to abandon their earlier reticence in discussing AIDS," the report said.

Reporting more good news, the study said that in the last two years an increasing number of people with AIDS in Europe and North America have been able, with the use of drugs such as AZT (azidothymidine), with careful diet and lifestyle, and with a positive personal attitude, to live full and rewarding lives far longer than was previously thought possible — U.S. Information Agency.

Latin leaders seek new deal with United States

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

PUNTA DEL ESTE, Uruguay — With the U.S. presidential election just 10 days away, Latin American leaders waved goodbye to Ronald Reagan over the weekend and asked his successor to treat them with more consideration.

A summit of seven presidents in this Atlantic coast resort laid emphasis on what many Latins consider to have been costly U.S. policy failures during Reagan's tenure, bequeathing mistrust and resentment to the winner of the November 8 ballot.

The summit grouped the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela — whose populations account for about 80 per cent of Latin America's 400 million inhabitants.

The meeting of the so-called Group of Eight Latin American democracies (Panama was suspended last February after military strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega ousted President Eric Delvalle) was the second of its kind.

The previous one in Acapulco, Mexico, last November was the first such high-level gathering to which the United States, the dominant power in the hemisphere, was not invited.

Washington's representatives were shut out this time, too.

After much criticism of Reagan policies in public speeches, the final document of the Punta del Este summit said: "Relations between Latin America and the United States are going through... challenges which require new political capacity."

It added: "Differences of in-

terest and perceptions have not allowed for... wide and fair cooperation. Therefore, it is necessary to encourage a climate of confidence and understanding."

That seemed to imply to this new generation of democratically elected Latin American leaders that the Reagan administration had lacked political capacity, failed to understand the region and refused to cooperate fairly with its southern neighbours.

Critics of Reagan, in the United States as well as in Latin America, say the eight years of his administration have sent U.S. prestige in Latin America to its lowest level in decades.

American influence has declined markedly in an area where Washington's leading role used to be taken for granted.

Officials here noted that criticism of the United States was much harsher than in Acapulco, where the final summit document never mentioned the United States by name.

While the "Declaration of Uruguay" called for "immediate dialogue" with the United States, there was no doubt the Latin leaders had no intention of even seeking a meeting with Reagan before he hands over office next January.

Asked to explain when they hoped to begin their "new deal" dialogue with the United States, President Jose Sarney of Brazil told Reuters: "President Reagan is at the end of his mandate and we have to wait until the election of the new president."

Since Reagan took office in 1981 saying he would "draw the line against Communism" in Central America, Latin America and Washington have differed on

issues ranging from the conflicts in Nicaragua and El Salvador to drugs, trade policies, and the region's crushing foreign debt.

Latin diplomats say Reagan tended to view Latin America in the context of East-West conflict rather than deal with the region on its own terms and take due account of national sensitivities.

Diplomatic courtesy protected Reagan from being mentioned by name here, but his Soviet counterpart Mikhail Gorbachev earned praise in presidential speeches.

Sarney, who visited Moscow earlier this month, said: "I found in him (Gorbachev) a very positive inclination for dialogue and cooperation."

Peru's Alan Garcia went out of his way to praise the glasnost and perestroika policies of the Soviet leader.

The leaders of Latin America's major countries have been careful not to take sides publicly during the U.S. election campaign, but it is no secret that many Latins feel relations with the United States would take a turn to the better under a Democratic administration.

One senior European diplomat here said the "Declaration of Uruguay" could be read as a warning to Vice President George Bush that perpetuating Reagan's policies would invite friction.

Bush, currently ahead in opinion polls against Democrat Michael Dukakis, favours sending more military and economic aid to right-wing insurgents fighting for the overthrow of the Nicaraguan government.

U.S. aid for the contra rebels has been one of the most sensitive



issues in Latin-U.S. relations. In the eyes of its southern neighbours, Washington never gave peace a chance and pressed for military solutions in Nicaragua despite regional efforts to settle the conflict peacefully.

The summit communiqué noted that progress towards peace in Central America — there is currently a ceasefire in the Nicaraguan war — had come through Latin American rather than U.S. initiatives.

"The evolution of the crisis has shown that the... use of force fuels war and instability, violating the principles and norms of international coexistence," the document said.

Five of the seven presidents who met here are due to leave office during the next 12 months, but officials said the broad lines of the political positions laid down at Punta del Este were unlikely to change significantly under new governments.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iraq resumes weather forecasts

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqis timed in Monday to one of the more unexpected pleasures of peace — the weather forecast. No official explanation was ever given for halting weather forecasts during the eight years of war with Iran, but political sources said it was thought they could have helped Iran in its air or missile attacks on even the timing of ground offensives. A ceasefire ended fighting on August 20 and the two countries resumed talks in Geneva on Monday on a permanent peace settlement. The first forecast from the official Iraqi news agency INA could hardly have been faulted — fine, with a high in Baghdad of 25c (77F).

Locusts invade Basra

BAGHDAD (AP) — The ministry of irrigation and agriculture said Monday that swarms of desert locusts invaded the southern city of Basra. A report on the state-run television said six separate clouds of the crop-devouring insects were in the city, but the ministry was using helicopters to bring the situation under control. No further details were immediately available. Locusts can eat twice their body weight every day, so the swarms are often sprayed with insecticides to keep them from reaching agricultural areas. Locusts from Sudan and Ethiopia have swept across the Arabian peninsula in the past two weeks.

Cypriot leaders to meet de Cuellar

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The leaders of the divided Greek and Turkish communities on Cyprus will meet U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in New York on Nov. 22-23 to plan a second round of reunification talks, U.N. officials said Monday. Spokeswoman Nadia Younes told reporters that Georges Vassiliou, president of the Republic of Cyprus, and Rauf Denktaş, president of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, had accepted the secretary-general's invitation to meet him. "The purpose of the meeting will be to review the developments during the first round of talks which began on Sept. 15 in Nicosia, and to agree on the approach and the programme for the second round of talks," she said.

Iran seizes 20 tonnes of drugs since March

NICOSIA (R) — A senior anti-drug officer said Monday Iranian agents had seized more than 20 tonnes of drugs since March, Tehran radio reported. He said 7,000 drug traffickers had been arrested and 150 smuggling rings smashed since a campaign was launched in June, said the radio, monitored in Cyprus.

No deaths in Algerian earthquake

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — An earthquake centered about 50 kilometres off the coast of Algeria in the Mediterranean sea shook the capital and surrounding provincial towns Monday, causing several injuries and some damage, officials said. Algeria's Centre for Research in Astronomy, Astrophysics and Geophysics said the quake struck at 11:14 a.m. (10:14 GMT) and registered 5.4 on the Richter scale. It lasted about 10 seconds. The interior ministry issued a statement Monday night saying the quake caused no deaths, but that preliminary reports indicated 27 people had been injured.

Police expel protesters from parliament

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Police expelled about 50 relatives of leftist inmates from the parliament building Monday at the end of a seven-hour sit-in to protest conditions in Turkish prisons. The protesters, who occupied the governing Motherland Party's meeting hall, had said they would remain until the government lifted some of the rules at high-security prisons. However, police later ejected the protesters from the building and threatened to detain them, the semi-official Anatolia news agency said. It said the demonstrators were released after intense negotiations between police and deputies representing the main opposition Social Democrat Populist Party.

Algeria releases riot prisoners

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — The justice ministry, acting at the direction of President Chadli Benjedid, decided in favour of the provisional release of all people arrested during the riots earlier this month, the official news agency reported Monday. According to Algeria Presse Service, the decision was taken "in application of the orientations received from the president and on the

occasion of the 34th anniversary of Nov. 1, 1954." It was on that date that the Algerian revolution began, resulting in independence from France eight years later. The number of people released was not revealed. Earlier, an unstated number of minors was set free.

U.S. congressmen warn Turkey

WASHINGTON (AP) — Members of Congress have warned the president of Turkey that a meeting with visiting Austrian President Kurt Waldheim would damage his country's ties with the United States. In a telegram to President Kenan Evren, six members of the house subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East said they were "appalled and shocked at the news that Kurt Waldheim will be received by you early in November."

U.S., Greece resume talks on bases

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States and Greece Monday resumed negotiations on the future of American military bases in Greece, the State Department said. There was no deadline for the talks, the 11th round in the current base negotiations between the two allies, but past sessions have lasted about two weeks. Previous negotiations with Athens "have been marked by progress and we would hope that pattern continues," the State Department said in a statement. Washington maintains four major air force and naval bases in Greece and 20 smaller facilities.

Israeli woman votes for dead person, flees

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli woman was arrested after trying to vote in Tuesday's general election with the identity card of a dead person but escaped when ultra-orthodox Jews bundled her into a waiting car, Israel Radio reported. Israeli newspapers reported that ultra-orthodox Jews, who have their own religious parties, were trying to boost their share of the vote by using identity cards of the dead and of supporters abroad. Under Israeli law citizens outside the country, including diplomats, may not vote.

S. Arabia condemns murder of diplomat

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia praised Turkey Monday for its efforts to find the killer of one of its diplomats in Ankara last week. A statement after the weekly cabinet meeting, read on Riyadh television, condemned the murder of second secretary Abdul Ghani Beddawi and expressed "deep appreciation for efforts exerted by Turkey to find and punish the one who performed the crime." Beddawi, who was in charge of administrative affairs at the Saudi embassy, was shot dead as he walked up the steps to his home last week.

Syrian killed in shootout with Hizbollah

BEIRUT (R) — A Syrian sergeant was killed Tuesday in a shootout between Syrian troops and militiamen of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) in west Beirut, police said. They said the battle erupted when Syrian soldiers tried to arrest a member of Hizbollah. "Friends of the wanted man immediately opened fire at the Syrian troops, killing their sergeant," a security source told Reuters. He said the Hizbollah man fled with his comrades and the Syrians detained his father. A Syrian soldier and a Lebanese policeman were wounded Monday when a gunman fired at their checkpoint in Beirut's southern suburbs.

U.N. envoy holds talks in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — United Nations envoy Jean-Claude Aime held talks with Lebanese officials Tuesday to see what the world body could do to help arrange presidential elections and avert formal partition of the country. Aime flew by helicopter to west Beirut from Naqoura, a border town that houses the headquarters of the United Nations peacekeeping force in South Lebanon. Aime, a Haitian, refused to talk to reporters after holding separate meetings with acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss, who heads the caretaker cabinet in the split government, and Parliament speaker Hussein Housseini. The U.N. envoy later crossed Beirut's dividing green line for talks with Michel Aoun, who heads the military cabinet. He also made no comment.

Bush optimistic about hostage release

WASHINGTON (R) — Vice President George Bush said Monday he was guardedly optimistic that the American hostages in Lebanon would be released. "I've got to be careful, but I'm a little bit optimistic about them letting these hostages out," the Republican presidential candidate said, referring to a videotaped message from hostage Terry Anderson released Monday in Beirut.

In Los Angeles, President Reagan said he believed the message was written by Anderson's captors, and he called on groups holding U.S. hostages to release them.

Bush, interviewed on NBC television, said he thought the chances for the release of nine Americans held by pro-fundamentalist groups in Lebanon were improved by the Iran-Iraq ceasefire.

"I think it's in Iran's interest — though they don't hold the hostages — to do what they can to encourage their release," said Bush, who is seeking to succeed Reagan in the White House in the November 8 election.

"It would set whoever's elected president a good tone for the possibility of improved relations" between Iran and the United States, the vice president said.

"I am not asking Reagan to deal with terrorists, although Mr. Bush did so in the Iran-contra affair and TWA hijacking," Anderson said on the tape.

Hijackers of a TWA plane to Beirut in 1985 secured the release of 766 Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails in exchange for some 40 American passengers.

"No," Reagan said when asked whether Bush had engaged in talks with terrorists. "Now was I because we were never doing anything of that kind."

Bush was not asked about the Iran-contra affair in which he has said he was "out of the loop" of those involved in the White House. Reagan has denied the United States was trying to trade arms with Iran to obtain the hostages' release.

President Reagan, asked about the videotape of Anderson, the Middle East bureau chief for the Associated Press, told reporters, "I don't think that was Terry speaking. I think he had a script that was given to him."

U.S. accuses Soviets of bombing Mujahideen targets

Afghanistan to start U.N. diplomatic offensive

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Afghan Prime Minister Hassan Sharq will visit the United Nations this week to discuss national reconciliation and strengthen his government's standing, the Afghan U.N. mission said Monday.

Anti-government Afghan guerrillas, meanwhile, planned a diplomatic counter-offensive at the United Nations and were expected to discuss formation of a rebel government.

Last April in Geneva, Pakistan and Afghanistan, with the United States and Soviet Union as guarantors, signed a U.N.-sponsored agreement calling for a political settlement and withdrawal of an estimated 100,000 Soviet troops.

The Security Council was to meet Monday to discuss Afghanistan and was expected to formalise the 50-man U.N. observer force which is monitoring the Soviet withdrawal.

The Soviet Union and Afghanistan repeatedly have accused Pakistan of violating the Geneva accords by arming and training U.S.-supported Afghan guerrillas.

On Thursday, for the ninth consecutive year, the General Assembly will adopt a resolution on Afghanistan. But this year it is expected to take a more conciliatory tone in view of the Soviet troop withdrawal.

An Afghanistan resolution critical of the Soviet Union has been adopted overwhelmingly every year since the Soviet Union intervened in Afghanistan in December 1979.

Soviets bomb Mujahideen

The United States Monday accused the Soviet Union of unleashing cross-border bomber attacks within the last 48 hours in an area of Afghanistan where U.S.-backed rebels are advancing.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said the attacks involved the use of warplanes based in the Soviet Union, including backfire bombers, against targets in the southern Kandahar region.

Such actions contradict Soviet promises "not to conduct offensive operations except in defence of their own forces," he said.

Redman also said that within

the past week Moscow had sent the Kabul government, 30 new high-performance MiG-27 combat aircraft, which are deployed at Shindand air base in western Afghanistan.

"These aircraft are of a type not previously introduced into Afghanistan," he told reporters. Diplomats in Afghanistan report the MiG-27s "are being used in an effort to stem the Mujahideen advance on Kandahar. We view this augmentation of Soviet firepower in Afghanistan with grave concern," he added.

Undersecretary of State Michael Armistead scheduled a meeting with Soviet Ambassador Yuri Dubinin for later Monday to discuss the issues.

Washington said when the accord were signed it would continue to finance the Afghan rebels as long as Moscow subsidised Kabul.

Though Washington still expects the Soviets to meet the deadline, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar told the French daily Le Figaro that Moscow and Kabul were showing signs of nervousness on the agreement.

Torture, brutal rights abuses continue in Turkey — Amnesty

LONDON (R) — Amnesty International accused Turkey on Wednesday of brutal and systematic human rights abuses and said political prisoners were in grave danger of being tortured.

The London-based human rights group said more than a quarter of a million people had been arrested on political grounds in Turkey since a military coup in 1980 and most had been tortured.

"Although Turkey returned to civilian rule some five years ago, the government has failed to ensure that human rights are protected," Amnesty said in a report.

"Although in recent years fewer people have been detained than in the years immediately after the coup, Amnesty International believes that any person who is detained on political grounds is in great danger of being tortured."

An official at Turkey's London embassy acknowledged that cases of torture had occurred, but said opponents of the government had exaggerated the scale of the abuses.

"There are certain circles which want to come up with stumbling blocks to Turkey becoming a member of the European Community and bettering relationships with other European forums," he said.

The official said the government sent 612 police officers and prison guards for trial up to and including the first half of 1987 in connection with human rights abuses.

"There is a clear-cut intention on the part of the government to wipe this menace out," he said.

Amnesty said there were cases of young men and women being tortured in front of each other and parents in front of their children. In one case, three members of a banned political group were forced to hold hands and undergo electric shock torture.

"Common forms of torture reported include systematic beatings, 'falaka' (sustained beating of the soles of the feet with truncheons), hanging by the wrists, electric shocks, sexual assault and deprivation of food, drink and sleep," Amnesty said.

It said it had reports of five prisoners who died under torture. They included Emin Ozkaya, a diabetic 13-year-old boy who died in hospital after being held for three days in a police station on suspicion of stealing. An autopsy found his back, knees, hands and feet were bruised and swollen.

Locust swarms cross Gulf, hit Iranian port

NICOSIA (R) — Clouds of locusts have moved across the Gulf from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and swarmed into Iran's Bushehr port, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Tuesday.

IRNA, citing reports by Iranian agriculture ministry officials in Bushehr, said planes were prepared to begin spraying operations.

An agriculture ministry official overseeing anti-locust operations said more swarms would likely invade Iran if the situation on the Arab side of the Gulf was left unchecked.

During a visit to Ahvaz in Iran's southern province of Khuzestan, the official said Iran had offered to help Gulf states fight the locusts, IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, reported.

On Sunday, a swarm of locusts descended on farms in northern Kuwait, devouring crops in the first such invasion to strike the northern Gulf state in 20 years.

But an official Kuwaiti spokesman said the swarm was relatively small and could be fought by ground teams spraying insecticides.

ALL FILIPINO WORKERS IN JORDAN

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THE MISSION
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STAKEOUT
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

New 5-year Saudi plan aims at replacing foreign workers

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia unveiled the outline of a five-year development plan which aims to replace foreign workers with Saudis, but diplomats said Tuesday the goal appeared hard to meet.

They said the government would not find it easy to reduce the expatriate workforce. "There will be no decrease in the number of foreigners without a deterioration in services," said one Western diplomat.

The outline of the new five-year plan, released in a statement after a cabinet meeting Monday night, gave new firm details.

It indicated a continued emphasis on defence spending, improvements in government efficiency, encouragement of the private sector and increased regional development.

"The objectives are much the same as those in the last five-year plan," a Saudi government official told Reuters by telephone. "What is different is that the government will be better able to implement them."

He said the full plan would be issued in six to eight months' time and it would take effect in August at the beginning of the Islamic year 1410.

"The last development plan wasn't followed too closely," he said. "Before, the country was working on building its infrastruc-

ture. We now have the time to sit back and shape the economy." Diplomats said that, despite a commitment in the last plan to reduce foreign workers by 600,000 the total number appeared to have risen by as much as 200,000 in the last five years to between three and 3.5 million.

But many higher-paid Westerners were replaced by workers from the Third World as government and company budgets were squeezed by falling oil revenues.

The outline, carried by the official Saudi Press Agency, made no mention of measures that might be taken, but said the private sector would be encouraged to employ Saudis.

It said the government would also study ways to increase state revenues "so long as this does not lead to undesirable social or economic effects nor affect the interests of citizens."

Oil revenues, Saudi Arabia's main source of income, has fallen by nearly half since 1983 to a projected 74 billion riyals (\$20 billion) in 1988.

The government has predicted

a 1988 budget deficit of 35.9 billion riyals (\$9.6 billion) for 1988.

Oil production hits new peak

In another field, oil industry sources said Tuesday that Saudi Arabia boosted its oil output to a peak of seven million barrels per day (b/d) in the last week of October in an effort to force OPEC to accept a new production pact.

Saudi output averaged 5.55 million b/d for the whole of October, compared with 4.9 million b/d in September and a quota of 4.343 million b/d set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), they said.

"Saudi Arabia seems determined to apply the bitter medicine to OPEC until others agree on new output levels," said one oil industry executive, noting that a glut caused by high OPEC production hurt the kingdom least of all the group's members.

The sources said Saudi Arabia was apparently flooding the market in advance of a meeting of oil ministers from the 13 OPEC countries in Vienna from Nov. 21 to consider a new pact on output and prices.

Low prices have already caused financial hardship to some members and Middle East benchmark

crude Dubai sold in London Tuesday at \$10.50 a barrel compared with an official OPEC price of \$17.42.

Current OPEC output of more than 21 million b/d is at least two million b/d higher than demand for its oil, the sources said.

They said the main obstacle to a new pact was Iran's opposition to demands by Iraq, its war enemy, to be allocated an equal quota.

Some executives cautioned that, even if OPEC agreed in Vienna to cut output, Saudi Arabia as the world's largest oil exporter might find it difficult to slow down production in December.

The sources said a steep rise in Saudi exports was the main reason behind the jump in output to seven million b/d in the last week of October from 5.3 million in the previous week.

They said the kingdom's tanker chartering company Vela had hired about a dozen supertankers to load crude oil in November, mostly for storage, and output would thus be high this month.

Saudi Arabia will also ship about 600,000 b/d of oil to the United States in November as part of an agreement with oil giant Texaco to refine and market oil in 23 American states.

Airlines seek runway, space growth

MONTREAL (R) — World airlines appealed to governments Monday to boost airport runway capacity, loosen nighttime flying bans and allow them use of military airspace to ease air traffic congestion.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) forecast even longer flight delays and resulting loss in tourism revenues for nations that fail to increase airport capacity.

"All sectors of the industry are in various ways responsible, but the national governments, individually and collectively, have the key role," said Gunter Eser, director general of the 174-member organisation.

However, Eser, in an address to IATA's annual meeting, described as encouraging an agreement by European transport ministers aimed at easing over-

crowding in the skies.

Under the agreement, control centres in London, Paris, Frankfurt, Rome and Madrid will use a telephone "hotline" to coordinate the international flow of aircraft.

Unlike the United States, which has one integrated traffic control system, European nations rely on diverse communications and computer systems.

Passenger traffic is expected to double to two billion a year by the year 2000, IATA says.

"Those countries that invest (in expanding ground capacity) will get growth," IATA Technical Director Norman Jackson told reporters later. "Those that won't will stagnate. They will suffer financially."

IATA officials say congestion could be eased by allowing civilian flights into military airspace

during peak periods and by permitting some aircraft equipped with quieter engines to land at night in areas where they are currently banned.

"The noise regulations were laid down when we were in a different world," Jackson said. "Some of the new engines have one-tenth the noise of older aircraft."

Governments worldwide have faced resistance from environmental and citizens groups opposed to proposals for expanding airport terminals and runways.

Heavy congestion cost travellers in Europe last summer delays of up to 50 hours, and airlines lost millions of dollars in wasted fuel, crew time and use of aircraft for other routes, according to IATA.

Increased competition from de-

regulation of Europe's skies in 1992 may mean lower fares for travellers but longer delays as more aircraft seek to take off and land.

In other developments, IATA announced its member airlines — enjoying their best year so far this decade — would report net operating results from international flights of more than \$1 billion this year, "which could possibly reach \$1.5 billion," compared with \$800 million in 1987.

IATA cited strong world economies, modest inflation and cost increases, low fuel prices and a stable U.S. dollar as benefiting the industry.

IATA said the main negative factor in 1988 was some loss of revenue and increased operating costs caused by system congestion in Europe and the United States.

Kuwaiti exchange houses lose credibility

KUWAIT (R) — A teacher in Kuwait was overjoyed when an exchange firm telephoned to say she had made nearly \$3,000 in one week on a currency and precious metals trading account.

But when she went to collect the profit, the company said that her entire \$21,000 deposit had since been lost and handed her a bill for \$4,000 in extra losses.

Her story and others recently reported by the Kuwaiti press have shattered the credibility of Kuwait's once-flourishing exchange sector.

Exchange dealers in the northern Gulf state said business has plunged between 20 and 40 per cent since early September mainly because frightened clients have withdrawn their deposits.

"We have a lot of customers who have withdrawn their money. They are afraid," said the manager of one firm.

Four or five of the 35 licensed exchange companies may shut by the end of the year, the dealers said, while others are battling court cases and tough new central bank audits.

In a limited crackdown, the commerce ministry has sealed the premises of two firms found violating the terms of their licences, officials said. Al Qabas newspaper reported in September what it called "a dangerous and wide-ranging

swindling operation practised by financial companies in Hong Kong through local exchange companies."

Quoted senior financial sources saying the unidentified firms, working with foreign commodity and currency dealers, concocted records of fake transactions showing huge client losses.

Like the teacher, customers were first told they had earned fantastic profits, then forced to swallow fictitious losses.

Neither the central bank, which licenses and monitors the exchange companies, nor the commerce ministry which controls some 200 exchange businesses, has produced evidence to support the Al Qabas charges.

But central bank governor Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sahal in September warned against unauthorised dealings with exchange companies and published a list of 13 whose licences had been cancelled.

Rashid Al Mujrin, assistant undersecretary for commercial affairs at the commerce ministry, said none of the establishments had broken the law but two companies had recently been closed.

"There are some companies which have violated their licences," he told Reuters. "They are very few. You can count them on one hand."

Nevertheless complaints of suspicious losses have poured into Al Qabas and lawyers' offices around the city.

Kuwaiti lawyer Ahmad Abdul Mohsen Al Mulaifi said he took up 20 cases against exchange companies in the last few weeks.

"We have now claims for around one million dinars (\$3.6 million). Many more people are waiting to see what's going to happen. If we win they will also sue," he said.

The companies are allowed to buy and sell currencies, send transfers abroad, issue travellers cheques and trade precious metals. They cannot accept deposits, open accounts, lend money or engage in other banking activities.

The establishments, tiny businesses often owned by one person, crowd the narrow alleys of the downtown souk (market) and are barred from anything but spot foreign exchange deals.

Until central bank instructions to the contrary last June, any firms thought that they were permitted to trade commodities and stocks, and did so through international brokers.

And virtually all of the major firms thrive on margin deposits — a percentage of the sum a client wants to trade, usually four or five per cent, deposited to cover losses.

The firm buys and sells on the client's request, credits the deposits with profits or subtracts any losses. Dealers insist the deposits are legal and note the central bank routinely approves accounts including them.

"Margin deposits are not fixed deposits but a kind of insurance,"

said Mohammad Hamada, general manager of Al Nawrus Exchange Company.

But Mulaifi has built cases on the grounds margin deposits are illegal. He has named the central bank and commerce ministry as co-defendants, and contended that about a dozen firms still operate without proper licences.

"I have the feeling some of them (exchange firms) are not doing any real transactions," Mulaifi said.

Dealers said that a handful of illegal operations was giving the law-abiding majority a bad name and bad losers are trying to exploit ambiguities in the law to recover money lost in legitimate deals.

"Millions of people lost money in Black Monday," said one ex-

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Ministry stresses cutting spending

AMMAN (Petra) — Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan Tuesday stressed the need for observing the recent government measures on the use of cars and called for economising in various expenditure items, including procurements and supplies. In a circular to the ministry's various departments and institutions, he called on directors to implement carefully the Prime Minister's regulations in this regard. He added that the expenditures should be in line with the allocations and that they should not exceed them. Procurements and supplies should also be kept to the minimum that is sufficient to meet the needs and to ensure the continuous operations and services, the circular emphasised.

Kanaan meets Canadian delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Planning Minister Taher Kanaan Tuesday voiced Jordan's interest in enhancing scopes of commercial and economic cooperation with Canada. Kanaan was speaking at a meeting with a visiting Canadian trade delegation with whom he reviewed economic indicators and investment opportunities now available in Jordan. The delegation expressed special interest in cooperation with Jordan in the agricultural, tourism and educational fields.

Karak farmers receive JCO grants

KARAK (Petra) — Cooperative societies in the Karak governorate granted JD 250,000 to local farmers over the past two years according to Ferial Rabadi, director of Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) department here. She said that in the past two years, the JCO set up two agricultural stations in Rahbeh and Ghweir to improve agricultural output and supplied farmers with farm equipment in addition to having set up centres and warehouses to store crops. Rabadi said that her department also provided farmers with fertilisers, improved seeds and pesticides, and helped many in their drip irrigation schemes.

Tabbaa praises Baghdad fair

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Industry and Trade Minister Hamdi Tabbaa Tuesday inspected Jordan's pavilion at the Baghdad International Fair and voiced satisfaction at the standards of the items on display. In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Tabbaa said that Jordan's participation in the fair shows the importance of relations between the two brotherly countries. Jordan's pavilion includes various industrial items of a high standard. Baghdad International Fair was officially opened Tuesday by Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan deputising for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Ramadan said that the wide Arab and international participation in this year's fair demonstrates the strong relations between Iraq and the Arab and international worlds.

IDB grants 8 loans worth JD 2m

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) Tuesday approved granting eight loans worth JD 2,027,000 to finance a number of new industries. These loans bring the number and value of loans which the bank granted since the beginning of this year to 76 loans worth JD 5,052,000 respectively. The new credits include a loan for JD 1 million to partly finance the construction of a new factory for carpet and mouquette and six loans for JD 997,000 to finance purchase of raw materials for existing industries, in addition to a JD 30,000 tourist loan.

U.S. leading indicators fall 0.1%

WASHINGTON (R) — The index of leading economic indicators, the government's main gauge of future business activity, fell 0.1 per cent in September after rising 0.5 per cent in August, the Commerce Department said Tuesday.

The dip was further evidence that the economy was losing steam as the third quarter drew to a close under the impact of the interest rate increases engineered earlier in the year by the Federal Reserve, economists said.

Political analysts said Democratic presidential nominee Michael Dukakis might not be able to make much political capital out of the mounting evidence of slower growth because economists have been hoping for a slowdown to dampen inflationary pressures.

Reagan expands copyright protection for American works overseas

LOS ANGELES (R) — President Reagan signed legislation Monday to expand legal protections against the piracy of U.S. artistic and literary works outside the United States.

At a bill-signing ceremony attended by American performing artists and entertainment and publishing industry officials, Reagan said the measure "will secure the highest available level of international copyright protection for U.S. artists, authors and copyright holders."

Approval of the legislation was required before the United States could become a member of the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works.

The convention extends the force of copyright protections beyond an individual nation's borders to all member nations.

The United States will become the 78th nation to join the convention, which has existed for over 100 years.

The only major trading part-

ners of the United States not now adhering to the convention are the Soviet Union and China.

Before Washington could sign the convention it had to make technical changes in its laws to conform with treaty requirements.

Overseas piracy of U.S. artistic and literary works cost the entertainment industry more than \$2 billion in potential revenues in 1986, and U.S. computer and software industries lost another \$4 billion, Reagan said.

"That's why adherence to the Berne Convention has been such an important goal of the administration, and why this occasion marks a watershed for us," he said.

"The billions of dollars we lose each year because of international software piracy is unconscionable," said Lawrence Welko, president of Indianapolis-based International Computer Programmes, in a statement released here.

U.N. shipping code comes under review

GENEVA (R) — Government delegates and shipping experts from about 100 countries began a three-week review Monday of an international agreement aimed at giving developing nations a bigger share of world shipping.

They discussed the workings of a United Nations convention adopted in 1983 outlining a code of conduct for groups of shipping firms that set conditions and tariffs for their routes.

A key provision of the convention, negotiated under the auspices of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), provides that 40 per cent of cargoes be carried by ships belonging to exporting countries, 40 per cent by importers' vessels and 20 per cent by third country lines.

An UNCTAD report prepared for the meeting said the convention's 71 members accounted for just under half the 91 million deadweight tons of shipping operated by such groups.

Major shipping nations that are not members include Australia, Canada, United States, Japan, and Liberia.

Lalit Mohan Singh Rajwar, managing director of the Shipping Corporation of India, was elected chairman of the review session. He said delegates faced a complex task and would need to be flexible in considering possible amendments to the code.

Delegates said industrialised and developing countries differed over the role governments should play in implementing the code. Developed states favoured leaving implementation largely to commercial partners involved, while Third World nations generally advocated active government involvement.

Another divergence arose over developing country arguments, opposed by advanced countries, that cargo-sharing provisions of the code should apply also to lines that were not members of conferences, delegates said.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday Nov. 1, 1988					
Central Bank official rates					
Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	447.0	449.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	356.5	358.3
Pound Sterling	791.3	795.3	Dutch guilder	221.9	223.0
Deutschemark	250.3	251.6	Swedish crown	72.3	72.7
Swiss franc	296.9	298.4	Italian lira (for 100)	33.7	33.9
French franc	73.3	73.7	Belgian franc (for 10)	119.4	120.0

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for Nov. 1, 1988.			
	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	774235	JD 995978	919
Top three companies:			
Arab Bank Limited	1180	JD 156502	42
Arab Aluminium Industries	63992	JD 125060	92
Jordan Rock Wool Industries	91350	JD 78135	56
Parallel market:	17450	JD 10350	—
Development bonds:	4183	JD 43201	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—

JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Ministry of Industry and Trade	663191	Jordan Commercial Centres	603507
Ministry of Supply	602121	Corporate	603507
Ministry of Finance	636321	Free Zones Corporation	642001
Ministry of Planning	644466	Amman Financial Market	660701
Ministry of Labour	663186	Amman Chamber of Commerce	666151
Ministry of Communications	847391	Amman Chamber of Industry	644747
Ministry of Agriculture	639391	Association of Banks in Jordan	662238
Income Tax Department	660151	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies	647370
Central Bank of Jordan	630301	General Statistics Department	646171
Amman Customs Department	721181	Jordanian Businessmen Association	680663
Social Security Corporation	643000		
Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation	721194		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.7655/65	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.2245/60	Canadian dollar	
	1.7892/7902	Deutschemarks	
	2.0175/85	Dutch guilders	
	1.5053/60	Swiss francs	
	37.47/50	Belgian francs	
	6.1050/1100	French francs	
	1329/1330	Italian lire	
	125.48/58	Japanese yen	
	6.1850/1900	Swedish crowns	
	6.6430/80	Norwegian crowns	
	6.8900/50	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	411.10/41.60	U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Australian stocks closed easier after a slow day, highlighted only by a halt in trading for the Melbourne Cup horse race won by Empire Rose. The All Ordinaries index eased 2.3 to 1,584.6.

TOKYO — Prices drifted through the day in moderate trading, but ended just above the resistance line of 28,000 and were higher for the seventh straight day. The Nikkei index rose 31.13 to 28,013.67.

HONG KONG — Prices closed lower in sluggish trading. The Hang Seng index fell 11.98 to 2,615.43.

SINGAPORE — Prices closed slightly easier on the board on lack of institutional interest in light profit-taking in listless trading. The Straits Times Industrial index eased 6.60 to 1,032.67.

BOMBAY — Share prices recovered sharply on fresh buying by state-owned financial institutions after a week-long slide. Tata steel rallied 22.5 rupees to 985.

FRANKFURT — German share prices closed firmer on the Frankfurt Bourse, boosted by the dollar's firmer tone after central bank intervention. The Real-Time 30-share DAX index closed at 1,310.79, 10.00 points above Monday's close.

ZURICH — Swiss shares closed steady in moderate trading, lifted slightly by Monday's fairly steady Wall Street close and a stronger dollar. The Swiss index rose 4.1 points to 940.5.

PARIS — French stock markets were closed Monday and Tuesday for the All Saints' day holidays.

LONDON — Equities showed a firmer bias at mid-session with some speculative issues moving ahead quite strongly ahead of Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson's economic statement. By 1200 GMT, the FTSE index had gained 6.2 points to 1,838.6.

NEW YORK — Wall Street stocks showed little overall change in early trading. The Dow was up four at 2153.

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Basketball season begins Friday

NEW YORK (AP) — Starting Friday at Dallas, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar of the Los Angeles Lakers will begin his 30th and final National Basketball Association season, and the Lakers will open their bid for a third straight title.

The only team to win at least three straight titles is the Boston Celtics. The Celtics actually exceeded that goal. In 1966, they won for the eighth consecutive year.

"Last year spoke for itself," Lakers coach Pat Riley said. "I feel strongly about the Lakers this year, but there may be 10 teams with a chance to win it all. But the Lakers aren't tired of winning, and the winning will continue."

New teams in the NBA this year will be the Charlotte Hornets in North Carolina and the Miami Heat in Florida.

Also new to the NBA will be a third game official, a move designed to improve court coverage, especially away from the ball, where most on-court scuffles begin.

New Golden State coach Don Nelson was impressed with the 1988-89 version of the Lakers in pre-season.

"Woolridge has added a new dimension to the Lakers," Nelson said after the Lakers whipped the Warriors on consecutive nights. "I want to warn the League how good the Lakers are."

"We always emphasize team effort. That's what's kept us successful," Abdul-Jabbar said.

Abdul-Jabbar, the all-time NBA leader in points, games, minutes, field goals made, attempted and blocked shots, will be 42 by the time the regular season ends in April.

"I'm not going to use Kareem's last year as a psychological ploy to get the team motivated to win," Riley said. "The natural desire to win isn't enough in the NBA because every player in the league wants to win. So we have to find another reason to win again."

Riley, who guaranteed after winning in 1987 that the Lakers would win another title in 1988, isn't going that route again.

"The guarantee did serve a purpose of identifying a goal for us, but it removed all the euphoria of winning in 1987," Abdul-Jabbar said. "As for this season, you never know how much you'll want it."

As for other teams in the league, may believe that Atlanta, a 30-game winner last season, is ready to take over as the Eastern Conference powerhouse because of the additions of Moses Malone, a three-time most valuable player, and Reggie Theus, a high-scoring guard who has never had a supporting cast like Malone, Dominique Wilkins and Glenn Rivers.

Hawks coach Mike Fratello, however, is not buying the favorite's role.

"I have to chuckle at some of the predictions before the season has even started," Fratello said.

Boston, with a new coach in Jimmy Rodgers, isn't ready to give up its status as a contender.

The starting lineup of Larry Bird, Kevin McHale, Robert Parish, Dennis Johnson and Danny Ainge is still formidable, but Rodgers will be looking for more help from the bench to bring the Celtics back from its dismal playoff loss to the Pistons.

The Celtics will benefit from playing a weak Atlantic division, while Atlanta, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland and Indiana battle for playoff berths in the central.

Tyson, Ali, receive special awards from World Boxing Council

"Ali is the greatest but I'm the best"

MEXICO CITY (AP) — World heavyweight champion Mike Tyson and former champ Muhammad Ali received special awards Monday at the opening of the World Boxing Council's annual meeting.

"We have with us the man who became for a time the most important and best recognized person on earth," said WBC President Jose Sulaiman, who presented a large gold plate to Ali.

"We honour ourselves by giving him this award."

Sulaiman gave Tyson a special championship belt, a solid gold decorated with a few jewels here and there, as recognition of his spectacular rise to the top of the boxing world.

"When I was a kid I had dreams, I saw myself getting a gold belt. I dreamed of champions like Ali, Roben Olivares and Jose Napoles," said Tyson. "They all had gold belts, and I wanted one too, I'm thrilled."

"We're glad Mike Tyson has

taken up Ali's hammer," said Sulaiman.

Ali, who suffers from Parkinson's Syndrome, received the longest ovation when he slowly rose to receive his plate from Sulaiman, but he did not speak.

Tyson, accompanied by promoter Don King, spoke only briefly with reporters. He said that he couldn't talk about his bitter breakup with actress Robin Givens "because it causes me too much pain."

"Why should I worry? I'm doing fine. Ali is the greatest, but I'm the best," he said.

The room was crowded with former world champions, including Jose "Pipino" Cuevas, Miguel Canto and Raul "Rat" Macias. So many boxers and former boxers wanted to pose for pictures with Tyson that the lights in the auditorium were turned out to disperse the crowd.

Sulaiman, in a welcoming speech, noted that the WBC was founded 25 years ago by 11 nations and now has grown to include representatives of 129 nations.

He said he considered one of his greatest accomplishments to be the reduction in the length of championship bouts from 15 to 12.

"Boxing is a sport, not an act of savagery," he said.

Sulaiman also said he was concerned by the growth of rival boxing organizations and warned national federations "not to open your doors to new organizations."

The five-day conference is also due to discuss, among other things, the problem of drugs and antidoping efforts, an increase in the medical fund, new thumbless gloves and problems faced by older boxers. It will end with an election for the board of directors.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Wandering boxing champ faces protests

LONDON (R) — The threat of a staff walkout is jeopardizing South African Brian Mitchell's sixth defence of his World Boxing Association (WBA) junior-lightweight crown Wednesday. Forced by WBA rules to hold all his title fights outside his own racially divided country, Mitchell's clash with British challenger Jim McDonnell has already survived a local council's attempted ban. But the bout is now under fresh threat following an announcement by staff at the South Looch Voeue that they will refuse to work in protest at the South African's presence. Chris Humphreys, local official of the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE), said Tuesday staff would stage an anti-apartheid demonstration outside the leisure centre instead of working. "The workers will down tools because they would be in breach of contract by involving themselves in a show including a South African," he said.

E.C. championship opens in Antwerp

ANTWERP (AP) — The one million dollar European Community Tennis Championship opened Monday in Antwerp, with top seeds including Czech Ivan Lendl, Australian Pat Cash, American Jimmy Connors, Tim Mayotte and John McEnroe. Austrian Horst Skoff gave the start, easily defeating Senegal's Yaya Dumbia 6-2, 6-2 in the first match of the first round. He will play against second seed Tim Mayotte in the second round. Swiss Claudio Mezzadri still even more easily beat French Jerome Potier 6-1, 6-1. He will meet Soviet Andrei Chesnokov in the second round.

UEFA fine Galatasaray after pitch invasion

GENEVA (R) — Turkish soccer club Galatasaray, whose supporters invaded the pitch and stopped a European Cup match for 10 minutes, were fined \$13,500 Monday. The fine was imposed by the European Football Union (UEFA) for incidents during last week's Champions' Cup tie between Swiss side Neuchatel Xamax and Galatasaray. UEFA said in a statement after a control and disciplinary committee meeting in Zurich that the pitch invasion by Galatasaray fans came midway through the second half of the second-round first-leg match.

European champ 'condemned' to fight Tyson

MILAN (AP) — European Heavyweight Champion Francesco Damiani said his victory Saturday night against American Tyrell Biggs "has condemned me to fight Mike Tyson," the undisputed world champion.

"I'm not frightened or resigned in advance, but I'm aware that I am going to face a great, hard-hitting champion who is reputedly unbeatable at present," Damiani said after stopping Biggs in the bout billed as a semifinal for the World Heavyweight title.

Biggs, 27, of Philadelphia, had sought to earn a rematch with Tyson by defeating the 30-year-old Italian. But Dr. Mauro Sturla stopped the fight in the fifth round with Biggs bleeding heavily from a severe cut on the right eyebrow — the same injured in the two fights last year with Lorenzo Boyd and Tyson.

Although the cut required 11 stitches, Biggs insisted after the match that Sturla stopped the fight too soon.

"I fought and won bleeding from eyebrow cuts. The doctor took a hurried decision, possibly because we were fighting in Italy," said Biggs.

whose record fell to 15-2. But Sturla denied he helped Damiani and said referee John Coyle agreed Biggs could not continue.

"I took the only possible action, which was the end of the fight. The cut was deep and serious," he said. Damiani, who is unbeaten as a professional, extended his winning streak to 22 with the victory Saturday in Milan.

He had lost to Biggs in three amateur, three-round fights including the 1984 Olympic finals in Los Angeles.

Damiani said his victory, in the first professional fight with Biggs, "ended

a nightmare because I was afraid he could have been unbeatable."

The European champion said Biggs' left jab "was exceptional and caused me a lot of problems. But he was slower than a few years ago in carrying combinations."

Damiani, who capitalized on precise, powerful hooks, was leading on points when the match was stopped. It was a sliding, left hook of Damiani that caused the decisive cut.

"Certainly I fought with great determination. I have been dreaming of

Tottenham heads Europe's fallen soccer teams

LONDON (AP) — At White Hart Lane, the chant used to be "glory, glory, hallelujah, the spurs go marching on." With one of the most famous names in the game and a flashy, attacking style, Tottenham Hotspur was heading back toward the top of English soccer.

Now, two years, two managers and millions of dollars later, the song of glory has turned into a wail of woe. Tottenham is tottering.

With one victory in nine matches this season and seven wins in its last 32 league games, the Spurs — one of just three clubs this century to win the English league and FA Cup in the same season and a third-place club just two seasons ago — are dead last in Division One.

Their plight is mirrored by other fallen giants of European soccer, such as Eintracht Frankfurt of West Germany and St. Etienne of France. But one of the club's fallen so far, so fast as the club of the crowing Cockerell, whose motto is "audere est facere" ("To dare is to do").

"Tottenham is one of those special clubs," said Terry Venables, described as a soccer messiah who would lead the club to a string of titles when he was brought in as manager one year ago. "That's why it deserves better."

When Venables took charge in October 1987, Tottenham had just been rocked by the resignation of David Pleat over allegations about his private life.

The previous season, Pleat took the team to the final of the FA Cup, the most prestigious league tournament in Europe. Fans could envision the Spurs' first championship in 26 years.

But Pleat resigned under pressure with the Spurs eighth in the 22-team division. By the time Venables took over several weeks later, they were 10th and losing ground.

They finished 13th, and Venables, with success as a manager in England and Spain, went to work reshaping the squad.

Now, with almost a quarter of his first full season as Tottenham manager completed, critics are accusing Venables' new-look, multimillion-dollar squad of lacking teamwork and looking like a bunch of superstar misfits.

Memories of 1977, when the Spurs dropped to the second division, have flooded back.

Tottenham, which won the European Cup Winners Cup in 1963 and is a three-time UEFA Cup champion, is not the only European giant struggling to recapture the glory days.

Others

Eintracht Frankfurt, one of only four West German clubs never to be relegated, is at the bottom of its domestic league. St. Etienne, a major European force in the 1960 and 1970s, recently climbed back to the top French league after two years in the second division, but is in danger of being relegated again.

Ajax of Amsterdam, a three-time European Champions Cup winner and the 1986-7 Cup Winners Cup titlist, fired its five-member management team in September after slipping to 13th in the Dutch league.

They followed the departures of two Ajax managers, Kurt Linder, who left because of poor performances, and the club's former midfield virtuoso Johan Cruyff, who resigned over accusations that his style of leadership was too authoritarian.

Even Juventus of Italy, nicknamed "the old lady" because of its dignified, respected past, is struggling after a sixth-place finish last season, a tragedy by the Turin team's high standards.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

THE LADY IS A TRUMP

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ A 8 7 5
♥ A Q 9 6
♦ K 10 8 7 4
♣ J 6 2
WEST
♠ 10 8
♥ 7 4 3 2
♦ K 5
♣ A Q J 9 5
SOUTH
♠ Q 9 5 3
♥ J 10 6 4 2
♦ K 5
♣ 7 4

The bidding: West 1♠, North 1♥, Pass 1♥, Pass 4♥, Pass 4♥, Pass.

Opening lead: Eight of ♠. It was Oscar Wilde who wrote: "Life imitates art." Had we not seen this hand dealt in a major national championship, we would have sworn it had been composed by a writer for a column on defense. Note North's decision to open one diamond with two four-card minors. That is the modern style. With two three-card minors, how-

ever, most players would open one club. North's jump to game was the value bid.

The defenders got off to a fast start. West led his top club. Declarer covered with dummy's ten. East won the jack, cashed the ace and continued with a third club. Declarer ruffed with an honor, and where West overruffed, that ended matters. Declarer was able to win any return and, when the king of trumps dropped under the ace, declarer simply drew the last trump and claimed the rest of the tricks.

The winning defense is really quite obvious. Instead of overruffing, West should simply discard. Now no matter what declarer does, West must come to two trump tricks to defeat the contract.

Note that failing to overruff runs absolutely no risk. Once declarer has ruffed with an honor, West is assured of a trump trick no matter what. Therefore, refusing to ruff can only gain.

This situation crops up quite frequently in play. It is usually right not to overruff with a natural trump winner.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumble words, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HINEW
PHLYS
SLYJUT
RARQUY

It's amazing how he comes up with them on the spur of the moment.



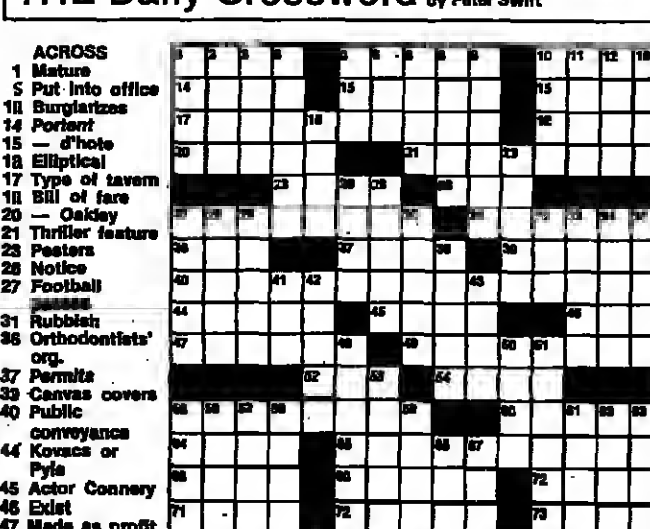
Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumble: PHONY SCOUT MUFFLE GULLET

Answer: Where's the forcing master? — OUT TO "LUNGE"

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword by Peter Swift



Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Mature
2. Put into office
3. Bureaucrat
4. Portent
5. Photo
6. Elliptical
7. Type of tavern
8. Bill of fare
9. Oakley
10. Thriller feature
11. Pastors
12. Notices
13. Football
14. Rubbish
15. Orthodoxists' org.
16. Permits
17. Canvas covers
18. Public conveyance
19. Kovacs or Pyle
20. Actor Connelly
21. Bird
22. Made as profit
23. Introduces
24. Tease
25. Youth
26. Abroad
27. Calif. oak
28. Daddy
29. Baseball feat
30. Guinness
31. Spooky
32. Roof edge
33. Onion cousin
34. Less
35. Silvery fish
36. Precipitous
37. Distant
38. Chiffed
39. Sudden gust
40. Double
41. Actor Sean
42. Motor
43. Hot time in Paris
44. Vegas
45. Diminutive
46. Santa
47. More succinct
48. Bar, capital
49. Kilo
50. Prohibits
51. Turn about
52. Shake
53. Apparition king
54. Unkamen
55. Cask
56. Heavy wind
57. Coasters
58. Burdened
59. Idiot
60. Deeds with contempt
61. Gnat
62. Distant
63. Chiffed
64. Sudden gust
65. Double
66. Actor Sean
67. Motor
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86. Gnat
87. Distant
88. Chiffed
89. Sudden gust
90. Double
91. Actor Sean
92. Motor
93. Hot time in Paris
94. Vegas
95. Diminutive
96. Santa
97. More succinct
98. Bar, capital
99. Kilo
100. Prohibits

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Pretoria ready for Namibia deal

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — South Africa is ready to close a deal with Cuba and Angola linking Namibian independence next August to the final withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola two years later, government sources said Tuesday.

The sources told Reuters that negotiators were waiting for word from Cuba on an American proposal to break a three-week deadlock in peace negotiations. If it comes they would fly to Geneva for what could be a final bargaining session.

"They were all set to go to Switzerland yesterday, but we did not get the word we had expected," one source said Tuesday.

Nov. 1, the tentatively-set date for the start of a seven-month run-up to independence in South African-ruled Namibia, passed without a reciprocal agreement to send an estimated 52,000 Cuban troops from Angola.

The focus is now Jan. 1, which under the U.S. proposal would mean independence for Namibia Aug. 1 and departure of the last Cuban soldier from Angola by

Aug. 1, 1991.

"There is an awareness that the momentum is slowing down, but there are still many positive factors at work," the South African source said.

The sources said Cuba appeared to be awaiting the outcome of the U.S. presidential election before giving the green light that could see an agreement signed as early as Nov. 14.

They said Cuba and Angola would expect more support from Michael Dukakis than from George Bush for their fight against Jonas Savimbi's anti-communist UNITA rebels, who fight with American weapons.

Namibian political leaders said Monday that a delay on implementation of the independence process did not surprise them.

Faanel Kozonguizi, justice minister in the territorial govern-

ment, said "personally, I am not convinced of South Africa's sincerity and I think they are hoping to shift the responsibility for a breakdown to the other side and may be hoping for something to happen to rescue them from their commitment."

Kozonguizi is one of several members of the transitional government who oppose South Africa's apartheid policies of racial separation but have been blocked by Pretoria in attempts to end such practices in the territory.

South Africa and the combined Cuban-Angolan forces have been observing a ceasefire since Aug. 8, and there have been no reports of violations.

South Africa withdrew its troops at the end of August from Angola, where they were fighting alongside the UNITA rebels in a 13-year-old civil war.

UNITA has not been involved in the peace talks and continues to fight in Angola.

Newspaper silenced

The government banned the Weekly Mail newspaper for four

weeks Tuesday, silencing one of its most outspoken and influential critics.

The ban, imposed by Home Affairs Minister Stoffel Botha, was the most serious move Pretoria has taken against the anti-apartheid press since imposing a state of emergency in June, 1986.

The independent, Johannesburg-based newspaper, read mainly by white liberals, has frequently embarrassed the authorities with exposes of police brutality and injustices in black townships.

His statement said the newspaper had ignored warnings not to publish so-called subversive material.

The Mail, which runs under the slogan "no news is bad news" — might have persuaded Botha not to impose a full, three-month ban.

Mail co-editor Irwin Manoim said the newspaper had been bracing for a three-month suspension.

"We are pretty sure we can survive this. We have had 13 months to mull over this possibility," he told Reuters.



TAKING A LOW ROAD? — Two diesel locomotives, operating without engineers, took a plunge down to a main motorway in northwest London last Friday. Police are investigating a theory that vandals were behind the incident.

Argentina confirms jail terms for junta leaders

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina turned another page in the Falklands saga Monday, jailing until 1996 the military leaders blamed for the country's humiliating defeat in its 1982 war with Britain.

The federal appeals court upheld a 12-year sentence handed down by a military tribunal in 1984 for former President Leopoldo Galtieri and issued new 12-year sentences for Admiral Jorge Anaya and Brigadier Basilio Lami Dozo.

It found the three guilty of negligence and incompetence which reduced the effectiveness of Argentina's armed forces.

The Supreme Court of Justice is expected to ratify the civil court's ruling which the defendants' lawyers said they would appeal.

The ruling fell short of federal prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo's request for stiffer terms, including 20 years for Galtieri.

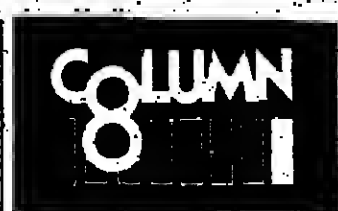
The 1984 military tribunal had handed down sentences of 14 and eight years to Anaya and Lami Dozo respectively, after giving a 12-year term for Galtieri.

But the appeals court said it was sentencing the three to equal jail terms because they held equal responsibility for Argentina's defeat.

Three other military commanders absolved by the military tribunal and whose retrial Moreno Ocampo had requested were acquitted.

Moreno Ocampo said he may appeal the acquittals.

Argentines showed scant interest in the trial compared with one in 1985 which sent five former military leaders, including two ex-presidents, to jail for up to life for human rights violations.



Wedding cake monument reopened

ROME (R) — The Victor Emmanuel Monument, one of Rome's most conspicuous and controversial pieces of architecture, opened to the public Saturday for the first time since a bomb exploded on its steps in 1969. The tiered white marble edifice towers over Rome's central Piazza Venezia like a giant wedding cake or typewriter and was inaugurated in 1911 in honor of the unification of Italy by King Victor Emmanuel II. The monument, which also houses the altar of the nation, the tomb of the unknown soldier and a museum, was reopened by Defence Minister Valerio Zanone after partial restoration.

Hammer gets decorated

PARIS (AP) — Culture Minister Jack Lang has decorated U.S. industrialist Armand Hammer, known for his role as an "ambassador" between the Soviet Union and the West. Hammer was made commander of Arts and Letters, one of France's highest awards for contributions to the arts, in a ceremony in the gilded salons of the French Culture Ministry. Lang noted that the 90-year-old patron of the arts and head of the Occidental Petroleum Corporation spent nine years in the Soviet Union amassing an impressive collection of 18th century French furniture and rare French china.

China has 3,765 centenarians

PEKING (AP) — China has 3,765 people 100 years old or older among its population of one billion, the official Xinhua news agency says, quoting the "People's Life" journal. The report said there are 228 Chinese between 110 and 119, and 36 older than 120. The oldest, who was not identified, is 130, it said. It said 2,657 of the centenarians are women.

Couple plunges into marriage

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A Pittsburgh couple fell in love, then fell into marriage, plunging 914.4 metres by parachute to their wedding site. "Is this what I envisioned? No. I envisioned Saint Mary's church in Warren, Ohio," said Joann Nardo, mother of the bride. Sabrina Nardo, 31, a graphic artist, and Edwin "Ehby" Boehm Junior, 33, chef and manager of a Pittsburgh restaurant, met while skydiving four years ago. For their nuptials, they jumped from an airplane and landed in the park in downtown Pittsburgh, where they exchanged vows in an outdoor ceremony. The bride wore a satin jumpsuit, which converted into a gown. She replaced her beaded jump cap with a veil and put on makeup after landing.

Escaped prisoner scores goal

LONDON (R) — An escaped prisoner scored a goal in an amateur soccer match and kept on running — straight off the field — after spotting police on the sidelines. Convicted robber George Graham failed to return to a low-security prison at the end of a one-day parole in September. But life on the run did not stop him joining the amateur Camp Hill team in the British midlands and scoring two goals in a 7-1 win over King's Crusaders Monday. He did not stay to savour victory. An amateur league official said Graham netted the ball and kept running: Through a hedge, down a lane, over a gate and across some gardens before disappearing.

British, French take prizes at film festival

VAILLADOLID, Spain (AP) — The British film "Distant Voices Still Lives," directed by Terence Davies, won the top prize for best film Saturday at the 33rd Valladolid International Film Week Festival. An international jury at the festival in this northern Spanish town chose the British director's fourth film, about a British farming family, as the winner of the Golden Stalk Award from a field of 15 official entrants. The jury also awarded the prize for the best photography to William Dwyer and Patrick Dwyer for their work on "Distant Voices Still Live." The second prize, known as the Silver Stalk, went to French film director Claude Chabrol's "Une Affaire de Femmes," starring French actress Isabelle Huppert, who also won the prize for best actress.

Walesa: Gdansk closure political

WARSAW (R) — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa has accused Poland's leaders trying to torpedo talks on the country's future by announcing closure of the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk — his banned union's birthplace.

Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski defended the closure of the loss-making yard on economic grounds but Walesa said the announcement of the decision Monday was a provocation against the stalled "round-table" talks with Solidarity.

Polish leader General Wojciech Jaruzelski said Monday the talks were imperative for Poland, which is facing economic crisis. But the row appeared to dim even further the chances of the talks starting after a delay of more than two weeks.

"The premier's decision may be regarded as a political provocation aimed against the idea of agreement and the round table," Walesa said.

"If this is how we are going to approach things, I see no sense in the round-table. If they pull such stunts ahead of the talks... we have nothing to talk about," he added.

Walesa, who works as an electrician at the shipyard and is one



Lech Walesa

of 11,000 people who face losing their jobs after the yard closes Dec. 1, suggested workers could run the shipyard on a self-management basis. He gave no details of the idea.

He said the workers would fight the decision, announced two days before British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrives on a three-day visit during which she will meet Walesa in Gdansk.

Rakowski denied the decision was a political act against Solidarity or the yard where strikes in 1980 gave rise to the communist world's first independent trade union and was a focus of widespread strikes in May and August this year.

"If you want to make the economy healthy you have to start with very strong measures," he said in an interview, adding that more closures would follow in efforts to streamline the economy.

Court kills Japanese internment lawsuit

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court Monday killed a lawsuit against the government stemming from the World War II mass detention of Japanese-Americans in U.S. prison camps.

The court, without comment, left intact rulings that veterans of the internment camps waited too long to file suit seeking compensation for property losses.

Congress and the administration of President Ronald Reagan officially acknowledged this year that the Japanese-Americans were treated unjustly.

Reagan signed legislation Aug. 10 that provides a \$20,000 tax-free payment to each of some 60,000 survivors among the 120,000 U.S. citizens and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry who were placed in the camps.

Noting that the detainees were forced to leave their homes and placed in concentration camps for

up to four years, Reagan said the reparations had "less to do with property than with honour."

The bill calls for a \$1.2 billion fund, with appropriations in any one year to be no more than \$50 million.

But the new law did not make the case acted Monday by the Supreme Court a dead issue. The legislation allowed anyone who does not seek reparations from the fund to pursue the lawsuit.

The Reagan administration opposed the suit on grounds the statute of limitations, or deadline, for filing such court claims has long since passed.

The detainees argued the deadline should be suspended because the government's deception in concealing the real reason for the internment — racism rather than military necessity — was not exposed until decades after the war ended.

U.S. makes conciliatory gestures to N. Korea

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States Monday announced conciliatory gestures toward North Korea intended to support South Korea's initiative to reduce tensions on the divided Asian peninsula.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said the overtures included permission for U.S. diplomats to renew substantive contacts with North Korean counterparts and a relaxation of travel restrictions between the two countries.

Also, the United States will allow limited North Korean purchases of humanitarian supplies to be determined by the Commerce Department and expected to include food and medicines. At present only U.S. donations of humanitarian items, not sales, are permitted.

Washington, which does not have diplomatic relations with Pyongyang, will not remove North Korea from its list of "terrorist states" or lift decades-old economic sanctions that have brought trade between the two countries to a virtual halt, Red-

man said.

Any serious consideration of a potential reduction in the 46,000 American troops stationed in South Korea was far in the future, he added.

Redman said the U.S. action was a direct result of efforts by South Korean President Roh Tae-woo to improve relations with the leadership in Pyongyang. During an address to the United Nations in New York two weeks ago, Roh pressed his drive for an early meeting with his North Korean counterpart by offering to negotiate disarmament and other military issues. He has urged the United States and other allies to help draw North Korea out of its isolation and encourage it to abandon policies of "confrontation and violence."

Redman said the U.S. gestures were taken in close consultation with Roh, who visited Washington after his U.S. appearance, and served U.S. interests of "promoting stability on the Korean Peninsula."

Breaking down barriers of the world of deaf, blind

By Sharon L. Jones
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Three-year-old Stephanie Rendon's world is dark and muffled, but she and other deaf-blind children are getting help to reach out and learn.

Stephanie already speaks a few words, she can say 15 in sign language and is slowly learning to walk and toilet training — all major accomplishments for a child born without any hearing or sight.

Most people with her handicaps remain helpless, unable to express all but the most basic needs.

"It is difficult to teach profoundly deaf-blind children communication and language, so they function far below their potential and usually as a retarded individual," said Cathie M. Christensen, a San Diego State University associate professor of communicative disorders.

Christensen runs an experimental programme aimed at finding ways to motivate

deaf-blind children and young adults and has dedicated \$286,000 for Christensen's two-year project, according to programme specialist Charles Freeman.

The Helen Keller National Centre in New York estimates there are between 30,000 and 40,000 deaf and blind adults in the United States, said Freeman.

Helen Keller, who became deaf and blind after a serious illness at 19 months old, went on to speak, read, earn a university degree and become a writer. But that "was a different story. She had a few years where she had hearing and sight," said Christensen. "All the kids we work with had nothing at all."

A deaf-blind person's success in education depends on intelligence, early education, parental involvement and residual hearing or sight, said Freeman.

"Children who are deaf and blind have so little data of sensory stimulus you have to start out at ground zero. You

have to experiment to determine what motivates them, what works. It takes a lot of time, a lot of patience.

"These children don't have concepts. They come to school without knowing what a square is, or a ball... but before you teach them the concept of the mirror, you must establish some kind of common link. Once you establish that, you can start their education."

That's where Christensen's programme comes in.

With a student-teacher ratio of 1-3, it allows more personal attention than is normal in programmes for handicapped children, she said.

Much of the children's time is spent in a laboratory classroom, where teachers use such devices as a hand-held microphone that vibrates to sound waves, or puzzles made of various textured pieces.

Teaching devices also are being developed with the school's electrical and computer engineering department. For example, a musical walker was built to encourage Stephanie — who wears hearing aids and responds to music — to walk.

Parents participate during the twice-weekly instruction, and staff members make regular home visits. Therapy sessions are videotaped and the children's oral and physical communication is analysed.

Already there have been some revelations, Christensen said.

Food failed as a motivator, while a swimming pool and a trampoline worked wonders.

Standing with help from her gymnastics teacher, Stephanie swayed to beat of reggae before being led to a mini-trampoline for jumping exercises that will strengthen leg muscles enabling her to walk alone.

Meanwhile, George Garcia, a skinny nine-year-old who a year ago refused to do anything alone but lie down, jumped off a diving board in the pool's deep end, oblivious to a crowd of children watching him in awe.

"This programme helps them to learn what is beyond their physical appendages," Christensen said. "It teaches them about exploration of the environment, about what they can do with their bodies..."

Afterwards she was fingerprinted and photographed like a common criminal.

She and her husband are charged with looting the Philippines treasury of \$103 million and then defrauding U.S. banks of \$165 million.

When Imelda Marcos was led out of New York's federal courthouse, she had to pass by hundreds of bystanders who screamed obscenities at her as she descended the more than 40 steps to a waiting limousine.

"People shouted 'thief' and 'hitch' as she left. A homeless man shouted 'I want my shoes and a Filipino woman screamed: 'Stealer'."

George's mother, Mary Garcia, credits the physical programme with inspiring her son to more independence. He recently climbed steps into a bus by himself, something he perfected on the pool's ladder.

"He's more active," Garcia said. "He's come a long way." Stephanie, who hears somewhat muffled sounds through her hearing aid, says "hi," "daddy" and "mama," and signs such words as "eat," "water," "music," "bath," "up," "down," "happy," "sad" and "no."

Stephanie's mother, Janet Rendon, has made her only child's education a full-time job, while her husband, James, works.

"I've always had high expectations for her. The moment I found out she was deaf and blind made me love her probably more than a normal child," said Rendon, who hopes Stephanie will become a self-sufficient adult.

In the meantime, she accepts compliments from strangers about her cute, bright daughter, but adds, "they don't see the pain and anguish that went into making her the sweet little person she is."